



## OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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### Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Review Process

The committee identified its goal for the semester: recommendations for clarifying and simplifying those aspects of the review process that are not linked to promotion and tenure. We identified three items for particular attention: the Ursinus c.v., the annual teaching review, and post-tenure teaching reflection. By streamlining the process, we aim to create more space for mentoring, support for faculty, and professional development.

### Dean's Report

The Dean's Report is now available on the Academic Affairs website, find it [here](#). This Dean's Report consists of updates on the new core, transitions of faculty, updates from each department, along with recognition of student and faculty achievements.

### IFYC Working Group

The Interfaith Youth Corps Working Group, composed of faculty, staff, and students, has started its needs assessment toward the college's interfaith strategic plan. We would greatly appreciate your participation in the online [survey](#) which will help us learn more about faculty and staff perceptions on interfaith cooperation at Ursinus. The year's work will culminate with a visit from Eboo Patel, who will serve as one of our Davis speakers, in April 2019.

### Inside Higher Ed



*Inside Higher Ed* is a daily online publication that provides news, opinion and resources focused on college and university topics. Based in Washington D.C., it is a nationally-recognized higher education publication. An article inside *Inside Higher Ed* focuses on how the college is doubling down on its liberal arts message with the four core questions: What should matter to me? How should we live together? How can we understand the world? And what will I do? Read the article [here](#).

### Institutional Review Board

The IRB has a new method for human subjects training, which all researchers must complete. The online training module that was previously used for training purposes was discontinued by NIH. Using the NIH materials, the IRB has created a new internal training module on Canvas. Please contact the IRB Office, [irbadmin@ursinus.edu](mailto:irbadmin@ursinus.edu), for access to the training course on Canvas, which is entitled "IRB Training Course." You can also send the IRB a list of students, if you need to give access to the entire class. Please feel free to contact the IRB if you have any questions.

### Mid Career Coaching

The mid-career coaching team held two small lunches to help spread the word about this new project. We aim to support faculty in the post-tenure phase who wish to jump-start a research program, pivot into a new area, or simply want a supportive atmosphere for writing. For more information, please email Meredith at [mgoldsmith@ursinus.edu](mailto:mgoldsmith@ursinus.edu).

### Middle States Self-Study

A draft of the self-study was completed and sent to the re-accreditation team chair. The chair will visit the campus in mid-November, and a final draft of the report will be due in February. Thanks to all who provided input and feedback along the way!

### Small College, Big Ideas

Mark Schneider is excited to share with the community a blog he has started in collaboration with Heather Lobban-Viravong in the President's Office. To read what he has to say, find the blog [here](#).

### Dean's Office Members

**Mark B. Schneider**  
**Kelly Sorensen**  
**Meredith Goldsmith**  
**Nathan Rein**  
**Stephanie Mackler**  
**Nicole Smith**  
**Valerie Nelson**  
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