



Ursinus College

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Ad Hoc Committee on the Faculty Review Process

The Ad Hoc Committee on Faculty Review will continue to meet in the spring semester to identify strengths of our process and areas in which it could be more efficient and effective. Please email mgoldsmith@ursinus.edu if you are interested in joining the group.

Core-Palooza

The Dean's Office will sponsor an intensive week of work on the Ursinus Quest: Open Questions Open Minds core curriculum during the week of Jan. 14-18, in IDC 114 and 116. Members of CRIS will be available in person during the day to answer questions about core requirements, Mellon funding, implementation timelines, and other related topics. Additionally, focused discussion sessions will be scheduled on topics that still need resolution or further development, such as planning for future Linked Inquiry collaborations, working with e-portfolios, "O" courses, and others. Stay tuned for an announcement of the daily schedule.

Digital Studies Grants

Interested in attending a digital studies workshop? Thanks to the Athena Institute, the college can supporting participation in one of several digital studies workshops this summer. A call was issued on December 10; please consult your email for more information.

Finals Week Notice

As you put together your syllabi for the spring semester, the Dean's Office wants you to know that classes are not required to meet during finals week. Although there is a requirement for work to be submitted during the final exam period, faculty should feel free not to hold an official class meeting during finals week if giving an exam or having a final meeting is not pedagogically meaningful for your class. And if you're one of the many faculty who has been already following this protocol but hiding in shame for fear of getting caught, rest assured: it's OK.

Harold C. Smith Foundation Grant and NetVUE Grant for Vocational Discernment

In the past few weeks, the college won a major grant from the Harold C. Smith Foundation and a NetVUE grant for Vocational Discernment. Please watch your emails for a call for faculty development opportunities.

Institutional Review Board

New IRB requirements will be going into effect on January 21, 2019 following the Common Rule revisions. Some of the documentation required for protocol submissions will change. Further information will be released as the date approaches so please be on the lookout. You can also reach out to irbadmin@ursinus.edu if you have any specific questions.

Interfaith Youth Core

The Interfaith Youth Core Working Group will host a visit from the IFYC strategic planning team in February. Thanks again for your contributing your thoughts and perceptions to the survey. Please mark your calendars for Eboo Patel's visit to the college April 2.

We wish you all happy holidays!

Dean's Office Members

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Kelly Sorensen
Meredith Goldsmith
Nathan Rein
Stephanie Mackler
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