



OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Core-Palooza is next week!

Come over to the IDC next week and work your core. January 14 through 18 is Core-Palooza, when members of CRIS will be on hand all day every day (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) to answer your questions about the Ursinus Quest: Open Questions Open Minds curriculum. We'll even have coffee and sandwiches. In addition, small groups will be getting together to work on Linked Inquiry, Experiential Learning, E-Portfolios, the "O" (Obligations) requirement, and several other topics. As a bonus, Thursday (1/17, 1-4 p.m.) will feature Hack Your Syllabus Day, when Talia Argondezzi (Center for Writing and Speaking), Christine Iannicelli (Instructional Tech) and Diane Skorina (Teaching and Learning Institute) will be available to consult with you about whatever part of your course you're thinking about updating. Visit [the Core intranet site](#) for more details.

Grant support for Core course development

We are able to support faculty who wish to develop programming for the Ursinus Quest core curriculum via the Mellon, NetVUE, and H.C. Smith Foundation grants. Watch your email for an combined call for proposals. Possible means of support include stipends, course releases, TLI collaborations, professional development opportunities, and others. The call is also available via Grizzly Gateway; go to Dean's Office Resources (under Team Sites) > Grant support for Core course development, or [follow this link](#).

Events in January and February 2019

A [calendar](#) of events hosted by the Dean's Office can be found on the Academic Affairs Team Site on Grizzly Gateway (sign-in required). Faculty and staff can find events here which are of interest to faculty and are listed in the "Deadlines and Important Dates" [memo](#), sent each semester and also found on our Team Site. Please be sure to visit the calendar for current information on event location and times. A list of [Faculty Thursday events](#) can also be found on Grizzly Gateway.

On January 24, a **Faculty Social Hour** will be held at the Institute for Inclusion and Equity ([please note change in location](#)). On January 31 a **Salon** is being planned in the Bears' Den, "Escape the Classroom: Designing Educational Escape Rooms." Learn how to design and use educational escape rooms to foster student communication, collaboration, perseverance, and critical thinking skills.

February **Baden lectures** include Nick Scoville, Mathematics and Computer Science, on February 7 entitled, "Typos: one math, three typos in topology." On February 14, Dale Cameron, Biology, will speak about, "Getting into shape: Heritable changes in protein structure as a mechanism for enhancing survival."

February **Salons** include "Faculty Development for All: Supporting Faculty across the Life Cycle" on February 21. How is faculty development related to ongoing professional and personal growth? In this salon, we'll explore faculty development as a process of ongoing growth in which faculty can explore new areas, expand or recast existing interests, and even, if they wish, re-invent themselves. Speakers will explore turns, shifts, and changes they've made in their careers and we'll discuss how the college can support those turns for others.

At the February 28 **Salon**, David Perry, journalist, activist, and undergraduate career advisor for history majors at the University of Minnesota, will talk about "Accessibility is a Conversation: Getting Beyond the Accommodations Letter." The delivery of an accommodation letter should be the beginning of a conversation between professor and student, rather than the end of the matter. In this workshop, faculty learn how to initiate and sustain this kind of conversation with their students, and why doing so has the potential to positively transform their classroom for everyone, including themselves. David Perry is a regular columnist for Pacific Standard Magazine with bylines at the New York Times, Washington Post, Chronicle of Higher Education, and other publications. He writes about education, parenting, disability, history, and politics.

Faculty Review on Grizzly Gateway

Each November the Dean of the College sends a notice to faculty that provides an overview of the faculty evaluation process, the components of a professional dossier, and the timetable for submission of materials. Our office has created a [webpage](#) and a [guide](#) that provides additional information about how evaluation materials are maintained on the "Faculty Review" Team Site on Grizzly Gateway. Faculty can find a link to the webpage on the Faculty and Staff landing page under Academics & Support heading named "Faculty Review." To access [information](#) sent to faculty in November, please visit our Team Site on Grizzly Gateway (sign-in required) and folders "Deans Office Resources," "Evaluation of Faculty."

Martin Luther King Week

Please join the entire Ursinus community and neighbors for this year's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Week. Our theme this year is "Claiming Spaces: Service, Community, Reflection." This full week of programming will launch with a Day of Service on January 21, two film screenings and talkbacks, lightning talks from faculty and staff on the 23rd and 24th, and a musical performance and Shabbat dinner on January 25th. Please watch the [website](#) and your email for updates.

Philadelphia Connection

Take your students to Philadelphia for activities that are part of a course – apply [here](#) for Philadelphia Connection funding.

PhillyX

The [Fall 2019 PhillyX program](#) is accepting student applications through Friday, Feb. 22, 2019. Students can spend the fall semester living, interning, and studying in Philadelphia. Three Ursinus faculty [will offer courses in Philadelphia](#): Prof. Nzadi Keita (“Philly Word”), Prof. Cathy van de Ruit (“Health in the City”), and Prof. Roger Florka (“Race and Ethnicity in Philadelphia”).

Purchasing Guidelines for Faculty

Purchasing Guidelines for Faculty are now available on the Purchasing Office [webpage](#). In addition to the step-by-step Web Requisition Procedures guide found on the same webpage, this new document supplies faculty with additional information about the overall purchasing process.

“Teaching the Students We Have, Not the Students We Wish We Had”

A recent [article](#) in the Chronicle of Higher Education (“Teaching the Students We Have, Not the Students We Wish We Had”) takes up a set of issues about how current students and faculty perceive each other: “For broader participation [in postsecondary education] to lead to positive outcomes — for example, the completion of degrees without huge debt burdens — students must have good experiences in the classroom. This is especially important yet incredibly difficult as the new economics of college are compromising the time, energy, and money that students and many of their professors have to spend on quality learning.” The deans had various reactions to the article, but we found it stimulating.

Upcoming Deadlines for Faculty Development Funding

Faculty Development deadlines are coming up! Please see the [webpage](#) for deadlines and details for small research grants, student humanities research assistants, the Pearlstine Fellowships (Feb 1), and travel funding and summer grants (Feb 15).

Are you interested in learning new digital tools and approaches than can inform your teaching and scholarship? If so, please consider applying for a Cutler Grant to attend a week-long workshop this summer. Visit the [webpage](#) or email mgoldsmith@ursinus.edu for more information.

Upcoming Faculty Development deadlines:

February 1: Pearlstine Fellowships; Small Research Grants; Spring Student Research Assistantships in the Humanities

February 15: Conference Travel Requests (Only base travel support considered); Summer Grants

February 21: Be sure to join us at the Salon when Faculty Development is the topic!

April 1: Small Research Grants; Summer Student Research Assistantships in the Humanities

May 1: VanSant Research Grant

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