



Ursinus College

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Assessment of First Year of Open Questions Core

Stay tuned for an e-mail announcement from the Dean's Office about an upcoming opportunity to participate in an assessment of the first year of the new core. The assessment will include looking at student Bear Tracks (ePortfolio) submissions and talking generally about what it was like to work with the four questions. The goal will be to provide suggestions for next year's faculty teaching in the core, to address any needs relative to the wording and development of core learning goals, and to propose ideas for next steps in using Bear Tracks. The assessment process will take place shortly after Commencement, and participants will receive a stipend.

Baccalaureate

This year's Baccalaureate Service is an interfaith service featuring readings from the Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, and secular humanist traditions. Rev. Aidsand Wright-Riggins, Mayor of Collegeville, will give the Baccalaureate address. In addition, the student winners of Ursinus Quest Award, Hillel and Chapel Leaders Awards, and the Rev. Charles Rice Post-Graduate Fellowships will be announced. Baccalaureate will be held on Friday, May 17, in Bomberger Hall at 5:00 p.m. Faculty are warmly encouraged to attend; there is overflow seating available to watch the ceremony via simulcast in Olin Auditorium if Bomberger is full. Please contact Tessa Narins at tnarins@ursinus.edu **before Monday, May 6** to reserve a seat.

CoSA

At this year's Celebration of Student Achievement (CoSA), 390 Ursinus students offered a poster, presentation, or performance with many students participating in more than one event. New events this year included a session about the college's Inclusive Community Grants and Fellowships, and the performance of a student-written play, "The White Feather Project." An impressively high proportion of Ursinus students have creative and research work to present each year at CoSA.

Celebration of Faculty and Student Scholarship, Creativity, and Achievement

This year's event, held in the Main Gallery of the Berman Museum on May 2nd, saw about 100 attendees. With the annual student art exhibit as the setting, we celebrated scholarly and creative works of faculty and students, and Dean Debbie Nolan announced the all-campus award winners. While only these awards were announced at the event, across campus 155 students were the recipients of commencement awards. On display at the event were faculty publications, faculty grants, and student honors papers. Emeriti Professor Peter Jessup gave the very informative Beardwood Toast as he recalled how computers first arrived on the Ursinus campus, emphasizing the intersection of the liberal arts and computing.

Summer Classes

This summer the college is offering two summer classes, one in History/Anthropology and the other in Statistics. More information on these two courses can be found [here](#).

Summer Fellows

Sixty students will participate in the 2019 Summer Fellows program through a combination of external grants and college funds, with projects from the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Twenty-three percent of this year's participants are underrepresented students of color.

Dean's Office Members

- Mark B. Schneider
- Kelly Sorensen
- Meredith Goldsmith
- Nathan Rein
- Stephanie Mackler
- Nicole Smith
- Valerie Nelson
- Kiley Addis
- Samantha Harvey

Faculty and Student Good News

- Click [here](#) to submit a good news item for you or your students.
- Student good news items would include faculty co-authored publications and presentations at regional and national events, rather than on-campus presentations. Submitting good news items in this manner allows our office the ability to collect information, in a standard format, which can be used for reporting purposes as well as collecting or sharing all pertinent details necessary to write news stories on academic department