



OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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Academic Affairs Administrative Support Coordinator

The Dean's Office is excited to welcome Melanie Cunningham as our Administrative Support Coordinator. Melanie previously worked as an office manager at the Kimberton Waldorf School in Phoenixville. In our office, she will be taking on the supervisory responsibilities of the Academic Administrative Assistants, as well as additional support in the Dean's Office. Please feel free to stop by to introduce yourself!

Institutional Review Board

The new chair of the IRB is Joel Bish, Associate Professor of Psychology. He has served on the IRB previously from 2007-2013, including a term as chair from 2008-2013.

Keeping Ursinus on the National Higher Ed Radar

The Dean's Office was particularly pleased to see Ursinus make it onto the "Best Teaching" and "Most Innovative" lists of the US News rankings. These come exclusively from the opinions of higher ed leaders, which means we are being successful in getting the word out about Ursinus Quest, and other academic innovations. Along these lines, we recently had an article on our email game from Community Conference accepted for the *ACAD Leader*, an online publication for academic deans, and had three presentation proposals for the AAC&U national meeting accepted for this January. It makes it a lot easier to get these publications accepted when faculty are advancing such new and compelling work!

PhillyX

Nine Ursinus students are currently living at 36th and Chestnut Street in Philadelphia as part of the fourth year of PhillyX, the Philadelphia Experience. They're taking one or more of three courses: Prof. Keita's [Philly Word](#), Prof. van de Ruit's [Health in the City](#), and Prof. Florka's [Race and Ethnicity in Philadelphia](#). They're shadowing doctors and interning at [Freeman's Auction House](#), the [World Affairs Council](#) of Philadelphia, the [YouthBuild Philadelphia](#) Charter School, [alkemyx](#), and elsewhere. They're eating at New Delhi Indian, HipCityVeg, and Shake Shack. Send your students to Kelly Sorensen if they're interested in being part of next fall's PhillyX program.

Workshops/Training/Professional Development Grant

With the advice of the Faculty Development committee, the Dean's Office has reconfigured one of our summer grant opportunities. The principal difference is these grants will no longer be confined to the summer; instead, a few will be available on a rolling basis throughout the year. Please see revised description below and on our [webpage](#).

Workshops/Training/Professional Development Grant:

A few competitive grants annually for faculty to attend workshops or training to advance and enhance their pedagogy within their discipline, to develop expertise in a new sub-field within their discipline, or for an area of professional development that merges teaching and research or supports the faculty member's long-term growth. These grants are for up to \$2000/each. They may not be combined with any other college-sponsored travel grants and are not designed for faculty members to attend conferences in their fields. Application deadline: rolling, at least one month ahead of any workshop you plan to attend. [Submit an application](#); contact Associate Dean Goldsmith with questions or for more detail.

Dean's Office Members

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