



OFFICE OF THE DEAN

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JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER

COACHE Faculty Survey

As you have heard before, the Harvard COACHE faculty satisfaction survey will launch this spring, with the survey open from early February until mid-April. This partnership is much more than just a survey, as COACHE and peer institutions, including some from PCLA, will be partners with us over a three-year relationship in helping us craft meaningful responses to what we learn from the survey, both from afar as well as in an annual summer workshop. The areas of focus of the COACHE project (particularly issues of faculty development, retention, workload, interdisciplinary collaboration, diversity, and inclusion) are a great match to the initiatives of the Dean's Office and the faculty as a whole. We have chosen to *not* have access to raw data, so you can be assured of complete confidentiality. To help answer your questions about the survey, Mark and the other Deans will be meeting individually with departments at the beginning of the semester. You can also learn more about COACHE [here](#).

Faculty Development Opportunities

As a reminder, the faculty development committee offers a number of internal funding sources that support faculty scholarship, teaching, and professional development. The [Pearlstone Faculty Fellowship](#) advances the scholarly agenda of faculty, including the scholarship of teaching and learning. [Small Research Grants](#) defray a portion of specific costs relating to research; eligible costs include travel to research libraries or facilities, instrumentation, computer software, lab supplies, and other direct expenses. The [Student Research Assistantships in the Humanities](#) fund students in the humanities division who assist a faculty member in their scholarship, providing an opportunity for students to share in scholarly work of professors. The application deadline for these opportunities, in addition to the final call to apply for faculty travel funds for this year, is February 1, 2020. Please visit our [webpage](#) for more information.

MLK Week

Please join us in celebration of MLK Week 2020 beginning on January 20, with the annual day of service. Activities this year will feature lightning talks highlighting teaching and scholarship on diversity, equity, and inclusion at the college; a special Conversations across Difference lunch focusing on Dr. King's philosophy of non-violence; a documentary screening; and an interfaith service. For more information, please visit the [website](#).

Periclean Faculty Leader Award

Next fall, Ursinus students will partner with the Pottstown Mercury to publish a series on inequality in public schools under a new course taught by Doron Taussig, a visiting professor in journalism, through the Mellon Periclean Faculty Program in the Humanities. The PFL Program encourages campuses to incorporate civic engagement into the curriculum while empowering students to use their academic knowledge to tackle real-world problems. Find the full story [here](#).

Dean's Office Members

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Kelly Sorensen
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We wish you all a Happy New Year!