



## OFFICE OF THE DEAN

VOL. 3, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

### ELECTION SEASON SUGGESTIONS

In November of 2016, the Ursinus campus was taken by surprise by the results of the election, and the level of emotion on the campus. Faculty and administrators alike were not well prepared to deal with open expressions nor with the toll taken on the ability of everyone to attend to usual business. We have attempted to be better prepared this year, but we recognize these efforts have reached only a minority of the campus.

How might this affect students? While surveys show that students are keenly interested in engaging across differences, we've also learned that they are more hesitant about engaging across political differences than any other kind. And they are likely to be distracted, given the historical nature of this—their first—election.

The current anxiety levels probably exceed what we all were considering when we put syllabi together. This is likely not the best time for your hardest reading, a major exam, or the toughest assignment of the term. We support your decisions to re-schedule or provide a brief extension, as you feel appropriate to the needs of your students. Be aware that political differences can and will intersect with other forms of difference. Students of color, LGBTQ+ students, and members of other minoritized groups may feel particularly vulnerable at this time.

Do your students have questions about electoral politics or the Supreme Court nomination process? Gerard Fitzpatrick ([gfitzpatrick@ursinus.edu](mailto:gfitzpatrick@ursinus.edu)) teaches courses on these topics and is willing to serve as a resource via email. The college is also continuing to add to our [election guide](#), so if you have a relevant addition, please feel free to reach out to us.

### FACULTY GOOD NEWS

Lauren Wynne (Assistant Professor, Anthropology & Sociology), has published a [book](#) on food and the pursuit of balance in rural Yucatán. Ed Onaci (Associate Professor, History), has also published a [book](#), which focuses on the Republic of New Afrika and the pursuit of a Black Nation-State. April Carpenter (Assistant Professor, HEP), published a [paper](#) about her research on muscle inflammation. Johanna Mellis (Assistant Professor, History), co-authored an [article](#) that was published in the Chronicle of Higher Education that focuses on the cancellation of college football. Mellis is also now a co-host for [The End of Sport podcast](#). Johannes Karreth (Assistant Professor, Politics and International Relations) co-authored an article about human rights and conflict. He and Anne Karreth (Assistant Professor, Politics) also recorded a series of short videos with information on the election. The students running "Ursinus Leads the Vote" are posting them sequentially on Instagram. Jasmine Harris (Associate Professor, Anthropology and Sociology), published a [paper](#) titled, "Inheriting Educational Capital: Black College Students, Nonbelonging, and Ignored Legacies at Predominantly White Institutions." Harris was also quoted in an [article](#) published by The Guardian that focuses on the salaries of college football coaches and how they will be affected with the season cancelled. Tony Nadler (Associate Professor, MCS), co-authored a [paper](#) that discusses conservative news workers. Mark Ellison (Professor, Chemistry) and Anthony Lobo (Associate Professor, Biology), co-authored and published a [paper](#) with multiple Ursinus student co-authors. The paper focuses on Tetracycline-Resistant Escherichia coli. Susanna Throop (Professor, History), also published in [Inside Higher Ed](#) on faculty members of college campuses taking on administrative leadership positions. Scott Deacle (Associate Professor, Economics), was interviewed on [KYW](#) on the stock market/ostensible economic recovery. And Cathy van de Ruit (Assistant Professor, HEP), published an [article](#) titled, "COVID-19 Lessons from the Sociology of AIDS." Rosa Abrahams published an article about music and movement. And Heather Lobban-Viravong (Vice President for College and Community Engagement) has produced this collaborative [poetry](#) piece. Please check out the celebration of faculty achievements page to learn more about recent faculty publications and creative work.

Please check out the [celebration of faculty achievements page](#) to learn more about recent faculty publications and creative work.

## REIMBURSEMENT REQUESTS

Need to submit receipts for reimbursement this semester? Please use the [updated check request form, available from the Business Office website](#). All receipts should be scanned and submitted to [facultydevelopment@ursinus.edu](mailto:facultydevelopment@ursinus.edu) via email (the business office is not accepting paper copies).

## GRANTS AND EXTERNAL FUNDING

The following grant proposals were submitted by Ursinus College faculty members from May 2020 through early October 2020. Deborah Barkun (Associate Professor, Art History; Creative Director, Berman Museum of Art), and Lisa Hanover (Interim Director of Operations for the Berman Museum of Art ), submitted multiple proposals in support of operations and projects at the Berman Museum of Art including proposals to the National Endowment for the Humanities (\$135,976), the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance (\$10,000- Awarded), Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (\$1,930-Awarded), and the Department of Community and Economic Development (\$65,000). Casey Schwarz (Assistant Professor, Physics), submitted a proposal to the Kaufman Foundation (\$90,407) for their Integrated Research- Education Grant program. Alexandria Frisch (Assistant Professor, Religious Studies), and Angela Upright (Assistant Director for the Harold C. Smith Program), submitted a letter of intent to the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations and have been invited to submit a full proposal in November 2020. Matt Mizenko (Associate Professor, Modern Language), and Yukino Tanaka (Assistant Professor, Modern Language), submitted a proposal to the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles (\$10,000-Awarded) for salary cost sharing for the Japanese Language program. Professor Kara McShane (Assistant Professor, English) and Christine Iannicelli (Instructional Technology Librarian), submitted a proposal to the National Endowment for the Humanities for (\$118,942) to support the building of the digital liberal arts program through humanities, technology, and ethics.

## POST-BACCALAUREATE FELLOWSHIPS

Three current Ursinus students are applying for the Fulbright this year. Hannah Merges '21 (ENV, Philippines) and Carver Wolfe (International Relations, Switzerland) are applying for research Fulbright fellowships, and Kyra Clark '21 (ANSO and Philosophy, Luxembourg) is applying for an ETA (English Teaching Assistant) Fulbright fellowship. The following students have been named finalists for the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship, in which post-baccalaureates from small liberal arts colleges travel the world for a year conducting a research project of their own design: Mary Margaret Baldy, Shelsea Deravil, Jadidsa Perez, and Siannah Vesslee. Final applications are due November 2. Please congratulate our finalists when you see them on campus!

### Dean's Office Members

Mark B. Schneider  
Kelly Sorensen  
Meredith Goldsmith  
Nathan Rein  
Stephanie Mackler  
Simara Price  
Nicole Smith  
Melanie Cunningham  
Julia Arnowitz  
Alyssa Martin

