

# PROVOST'S BULLETIN

Vol. LII – Bulletin #6

March 2011

## NEXT FACULTY MEETING

The next faculty meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Campus Center South Lounge.

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

**Arcana Albright** (French) presented a paper entitled “Television and Books, Dueling Virtualities? Jean-Philippe Toussaint's *La Télévision*” at the Penn Humanities Forum on Virtuality at the University of Pennsylvania.

**Marsha Green** (Psychology) spoke at the U.S. Hawaiian Islands National Marine Sanctuary in January on “A Deaf Whale is a Dead Whale.”

**Brent Harger** (Sociology) is presenting on “Working at a Liberal Arts School: Responsibilities and Rewards” at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Preparing Future Faculty Conference in Bloomington, Indiana. He is also serving as a critic for the Author Meets Critics session on Margaret K. Nelson’s *Parenting Out of Control: Anxious Parents in Uncertain Times* at the Eastern Sociological Society Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

**Karen Jogan** (Modern Foreign Languages and Literature) presented a session "Information Literacy for Digital Natives" at the winter technology conference of Penn TESOL East held at Holy Family University in Philadelphia.

**Lindsay Phillips** (Psychology, DCP) is co-presenting with Donna Welsh, a DCP graduate, at a conference in March, titled *Perception of Body Modifications: Piercings Associated with Negative Perception in Work Settings*. The presentation is a poster session to be presented at the 82<sup>nd</sup> annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Donna Welsh is the primary author.

**Kristen Woodward** (Art) had one of her encaustic paintings accepted into the *Playing With Fire* national juried show at the Tubac Art Center in Arizona. She also has 20 of her Hex-Mex signs on display at the Humane Society on North 11th Street for the month of February and will be in the *Curator's Choice* exhibition at the Goggleworks, opening March 13th.

## PROVOST'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Department chair elections** are coming up! Elections will begin on Wednesday, March 9, and proceed through Tuesday, March 15. You may stop by the Academic Affairs office between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to cast your vote for chair of your department. You may also vote before the faculty meeting on March 9 from 3:15 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Staff from Academic Affairs will be outside the Campus Center South Lounge with ballots. All votes shall be made by completing a ballot and signing the acknowledgement form. Faculty who are on sabbatical or leave from the College should contact Angela Fonte at [afonte@alb.edu](mailto:afonte@alb.edu) for voting instructions.

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Each returning full-time member of the department will be listed on the ballot for that department. If you **do not** want your name on the ballot, please notify Angela Fonte at [afonte@alb.edu](mailto:afonte@alb.edu) no later than March 4. If you have not provided notice in writing by the deadline, your name will be on the ballot. Changes to ballots will not be made after that date. The choice of “none of the above” will also be listed on the ballot in accordance with the guidelines for chair elections.

**The Social Science Division of the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)** is offering a limited number of travel grants, up to \$200 each, for undergraduate students in their junior or senior year presenting the results of research that they have conducted at a regional or national, discipline-specific meeting in the social sciences during the fiscal year 2010 - 2011. Award recipients are required to acknowledge CUR for support of their travel in their talk or poster. After the meeting, a brief report about the experience is expected. Award decisions are made on a first come, first serve basis. Albright must match the \$200 grant. To apply, student should send the following materials by email to [jlaplant@valdosta.edu](mailto:jlaplant@valdosta.edu).

- An electronic copy of the meeting abstract, including the title of the abstract, student author, faculty mentor, and institution. If the abstract is written in highly technical terms, the applicant may also submit a brief (maximum 500 words) summary of the work written for an audience consisting of social scientists from a wide range of disciplines. The abstract should note the study's objective, methods, results and importance.
- Proof of acceptance to the regional or national meeting.
- A list of itemized meeting expenses (travel, housing, and registration).
- An email from sponsoring faculty acknowledging (1) student's junior or senior class status, (2) confirmation of student's planned attendance at the meeting, (3) confirmation of institution's monetary match of \$200, and (4) confirmation of individual or institutional CUR membership.
- Reimbursement of travel expenses (up to \$200) will require copies of receipts and confirmation of student's attendance/presentation at the meeting.

More information can be found on the CUR website at [www.cur.org](http://www.cur.org) or by contacting the Provost.

If you are thinking of adding a **Service Learning** component to your class(es) for fall 2011 or spring 2012, please contact the Geiser House for Experiential Learning and Career Development so that we can help you with community connections, samples of service-learning syllabi, or examples of excellent reflection exercises. Contact Karen Evans at extension 7630 or [kevans@alb.edu](mailto:kevans@alb.edu).

**Catharine Resh**, the evening circulation supervisor, fell and broke her ankle and will be out for a while. The Library has hired a temporary clerical staff person, Michael O'Brien, to provide assistance until her return. Please alert Rosemary Deegan if you or your students need assistance with library support that you used to obtain from Catharine.

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## Upcoming Events

**Assessment Roundtable:** The next roundtable will occur on Wednesday, March 3, 2011 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge.

**Brown Bag Series on Teaching and Learning:** A series of brown bags will be held from either 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. or 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. in the Faculty Club. Drinks and cookies will be provided, BYOL. The dates and topics, based on faculty feedback, are as follows:

**March 9, 2011** – 12:00 – 1:00, Topic: Women's Studies

**April 12, 2011** – 12:30 – 1:30, Topic: Writing

**May 11, 2011** – 12:00 – 1:00, Topic: Favorite Assignments to Share

Save the date for Wednesday, **March 30, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Perkins Auditorium at Penn State Berks for the **Second Annual HECBC Lecture Series**. This year's speaker is Dr. Maria Garcia-Parajo who will present *Bionanophotonic: Using Light to Explore Biological Cells at the Nano Level*. Dr. Maria Garcia-Parajo is from the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia in the University of Barcelona, Spain. Dr. Garcia-Parajo received her Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Physical Electronics from the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine in 1993 while working in the Semiconductor and Optical Devices Group at the same institution. After completing her PhD, she joined the Applied Optics Group at the MESA Institute for Nanotechnology, University of Twente, the Netherlands, as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. Dr. Garcia-Parajo then joined the BioNanoPhotonics Group at the Institute for Bioengineering of Catalonia where she is currently a Research-Professor and Group Leader. Her research covers the areas of single molecule bionanophotonics, super resolution optical microscopy, near-field optics, single live cell imaging and tracking, and cell membrane compartmentalization. Dr. Garcia-Parajo has published 72 articles in refereed journals with an extensive list of papers presented in conferences. One of her landmark papers was published in *Nature Photonics* entitled "Optical antennas focus in on biology" in 2008.

**Dean's Seminar:** The next Dean's Seminar will occur on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The topic of the Seminar is *Moodle* and *Self Service* and the Library and the IT Department will provide information on these topics.

**St. Patrick's Day Luncheon:** The annual faculty St. Patrick's Day Lunch will be held on Wednesday, March 23, 2011 from 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (drop by anytime) in the Faculty Club.

The Library is arranging visits to see how technology is used at Princeton University and the College of New Jersey during the Spring Break. Please contact Rosemary Deegan if you are interested in traveling along to see examples how classroom technology is used to improve teaching.

## Professional Development Opportunities

### **The Academic Minute**

(From Insider Higher Ed webpage) *Inside Higher Ed* is now featuring a daily audio story called "The Academic Minute," which features professors from institutions around the country delving into topics from the serious to the light-hearted, keeping listeners abreast of what's new and exciting in the academy with topics ranging from updates on groundbreaking scientific research to an

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explanation of how the board game Monopoly can help explain the economic recession. Please consider recording an Academic Minute. Contact [academicminute@wamc.org](mailto:academicminute@wamc.org) if interested or see [www.insidehighered.com](http://www.insidehighered.com) for more information.

**Millicent C. MacIntosh Fellowship for Recently Tenured Faculty.** This fellowship provides a \$15,000 stipend to support especially promising faculty who demonstrate a deep commitment to excellent teaching and scholarship in the humanities, and who are exceptional citizens of their academic community. The fellowship is specifically intended for recently tenured faculty who would benefit from additional time and resources to continue their scholarly work, but whose family and other obligations make it difficult for them to be away from their homes for extended periods of time.

Save the dates for **March 31 – April 1, 2011** for **PACC's Spring Conference "Place Matters: Higher Education and Community Development"** at the Hotel Carlisle, Carlisle, Pennsylvania. This conference will focus on the impact of civic engagement in higher education within their communities for civic engagement professionals, faculty, government relations administrators, and nonprofit organizations focused on community development.

On Friday, **April 8** and Saturday, **April 9, 2011**, Swarthmore College will host a workshop on **"Liberal Arts Education, Collaborative Research, and the Humanities,"** funded by the Alliance to Advance Liberal Arts Colleges (AALAC, formerly Mellon 23). This workshop will bring together faculty to discuss what role undergraduate research currently does and theoretically should play in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. We will focus especially on undergraduate involvement in sustained collaborative research projects, whether in the context of individual faculty members' own research projects, collaborations with libraries and museums, or undergraduate course-based projects designed to create and disseminate new knowledge.

The workshop is designed to be useful to faculty interested in or planning to involve undergraduates in their own research in addition to those who already do. The two-day meeting will include panel presentations (including one on involving undergraduates in digital humanities work and another on building courses around faculty research interests), lectures, informal presentations by participants, and, of course, extensive opportunities for formal and informal discussion.

Mellon has generously provided some funding for travel and housing; meals will be covered as well. If you would like to join us, please contact our conference coordinator, Anna Everetts at [aeveret1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:aeveret1@swarthmore.edu) as soon as possible to reserve your place. Please indicate that you are sending an RSVP to the "Mellon collaborative research and the humanities workshop."