

THE DEANERY

ALBION COLLEGE
ACADEMIC NEWSLETTER

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ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE NEXT DEANERY ARE DUE MARCH 6, 2009.

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEES

From Course Change Committee:

The Course Change Committee approved the following new courses in November 2008:

Course Number: All Departments 416 Title: Teaching Assistant Seminar
Instructor: Varies by department Offered: Fall and Spring Units: 0.25
Frequency and Duration of Meetings: at least once a week for 30 minutes
Prerequisites: Set by department Course Fee Amount: \$0 Grading: CR/NC only
Course Description: Upper-level or advanced students may receive academic credit to aid a faculty member instruct introductory level students in select courses if the department and instructor approves.

Course Number: All Departments 417 Title: Teaching Assistant Seminar
Instructor: Varies by department Offered: Fall and Spring Units: 0.5
Frequency and Duration of Meetings: at least once a week for 30 minutes
Prerequisites: Set by department Course Fee Amount: \$0 Grading: CR/NC only
Course Description: Upper-level or advanced students may receive academic credit to aid a faculty member instruct introductory level students in select courses if the department and instructor approves.

II ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PROVOST'S OFFICE

The American Association of Colleges & Universities announces the conference, *Educating for Personal and Social Responsibility: Deepening Student and Campus Commitments*, October 1-3, 2009, Minneapolis. This conference will bring together faculty, student affairs personnel, academic administrators, students, and others to explore how to move education for personal and social responsibility to the center of institutional culture and academic practice. Additional information is available at: <http://www.aacu.org/meetings/PSR09/cfp.cfm>.

The AAC&U has issued a Call for Proposals for its conference: **Integrative Learning: Addressing the Complexities**, October 22-24, 2009, Atlanta, Georgia. Deadline for submission

of proposals: March 11, 2009. AAC&U's Network for Academic Renewal invites proposals that analyze the purposes, designs, and institutional supports for integrative learning; the assessment of integrative learning; and approaches to helping students connect their learning across discrete domains of knowledge. Submit your proposal online at http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative_learning/2009/IL09cfp1.cfm by filling in each field of the submission form as directed. For additional information, see: http://www.aacu.org/meetings/integrative_learning/2009/callforproposals.cfm.

Michigan Campus Compact announces the **38th Venture Grant Cycle Request for Proposals (RFP)**. Proposals are due on March 27, 2009 and notification of awards will be made in June, 2009. MCC Venture Grants are financial awards ranging from \$1,000-\$3,500, and are available to individuals or groups from MCC member campuses who wish to develop or expand community service programs, service-learning opportunities, and/or civic learning activities. *Community service* includes volunteer activities/projects which meet the needs of the community. *Service-learning* integrates within the academic curriculum a thoughtfully organized service experience and provides structured opportunities for students to think, talk, or write about their service participation (reflection). *Civic learning* includes engaging students in a public purpose, social action, advocacy, community-based research, citizenship and/or renewing the civic mission of higher education.

Registered student organizations, individual students in good standing, faculty and administrators of MCC member institutions are eligible to submit project proposals. Collaborations between groups on campus are encouraged. Student projects must be submitted jointly by the student/student organization and a faculty/staff/administrative advisor. All grant applications for consideration must be received in the office of the Michigan Campus Compact no later than **5:00 p.m., March 27, 2009**. Faxed, emailed, or incomplete applications will not be accepted or reviewed. For additional information, see: <http://www.micampuscompact.org/venture.asp>.

Michigan State University is hosting a National Endowment for the Humanities Grant Workshop: **Advancing the Humanities, Enriching Lives**, Friday, March 27, 2009, MSU Union Gold Room AB, East Lansing, Michigan. Topics to be addressed include:

- An overview of NEH funding programs, including Research, Education, Public Programs, Preservation and Access, Digital Humanities, Challenge Grants, and the Federal-State Partnership, with an emphasis on research opportunities and education programs.
- An introduction to the NEH's recent and current initiatives, including We the People, Picturing America, and Rediscovering Afghanistan.
- Examples of recently-funded NEH projects.
- A discussion of the NEH's application review process.
- Grant writing tips.

To register, visit www.cal.msu.edu, select NEH Grant Workshop. There is no charge to attend, but registration is required.

Eastern Michigan University will be hosting the **Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Conference**, May 18-19, 2009. Keynote speakers include Peter Seldin, Professor of Management

Emeritus at Pace University, and Richard Gale, former Senior Scholar at the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Themes for the conference include: sharing SOTL research, methods and findings; diversity in education; SOTL work and technology; faculty support for SOTL work; and how SOTL informs pedagogy. For additional information, see: www.emich.edu/sotlacademy.

The **2009 CUR Dialogues** will be held April 2-4, 2009 at the Hilton Mark Center, in Alexandria, Virginia. Plenary presenters will be Carl Strikwerda, Dean of Arts and Sciences at the College of William and Mary and Moses Lee, Dean for Natural and Applied Sciences, Division and Professor of Chemistry at Hope College. Attendance is limited to 350 participants. The registration application is available at: http://cur.networkats.com/members_online/registration/register.asp?mt=CD09&af=CUR.

The Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University encourages applications for **CASBS Residential Fellowships for 2010-2011**. Online applications are being accepted from March 16 – June 1, 2009, and Fellowships will be announced in November 2009. For additional information, see: www.casbs.org.

GRANTS NEWS:

The Albion College Library has received a Preservation Assistance Grant for 2009-2010 from the National Endowment of the Humanities to support a general preservation survey of Special Collections, which includes the College Archives, the Archives of the West Michigan Conference of the United Methodist Church, and Rare Books. The survey will assess possible risks to collections from building- and environmentally-related problems; address fire protection and security concerns; evaluate institutional policies and procedures as they apply to preservation; review the maintenance program of Special Collections in terms of shelf preparation, book repair, and commercial binding; provide recommendations for improving storage and handling practices; and review the general condition of paper-based collections. A consultant from the Northeast Document Conservation Center in Andover, Massachusetts, will be visiting the library in March to perform the assessment and create a detailed report, outlining recommendations for the future management, storage, handling, conservation, and exhibition of the archives and rare books collections. These recommendations will be provided to the College's Campus Master Plan Committee and the Library and Learning Commons Research Team as part of the current campus strategic planning process, so that proper storage and care of the collections can be taken into consideration when planning future renovations and/or additions to the library buildings.

Vanessa McCaffrey (Chemistry) requested \$10,000 from The Pittsburgh Conference Memorial National College Grants Program for software and electronic upgrades for a gas chromatograph - mass spectrometer.

A collaborative preproposal including **Dean McCurdy** (Biology) was accepted by the National Geographic Society. Dean will be working on a full application soon.

After acceptance of his LOI, **Kevin Metz** (Chemistry) submitted a full proposal to Research Corporation requesting \$41,983.

Aaron Miller (Physics) requested \$150,000 via a collaborative grant from the US Dept of Defense MURI program (Better get details from him esp. about the ask since this was collaborative)

Nicolle Zellner (Physics) submitted an LOI to NSF-Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program.

Lisa Lewis (Associate Dean) and others submitted a preapplication to The Henry Luce Foundation, Claire Booth Luce program, for scholarships for women in science.

Susan Conner (Provost), **Marcy Sacks** (History), and **Lisa Lewis** (Associate Dean) submitted a preproposal to The Teagle Foundation's Big Questions and Disciplines RFP.

III SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

David Abbott (Music) was recently asked to serve as Chair for the College Faculty Forum for the Michigan Music Teachers Association. He will develop opportunities for communication and collaboration on professional issues affecting college music faculty and recommend major college faculty program initiatives, projects and services to the Board of Directors of the Music Teachers National Association. One of his first assignments is to present a faculty recital at the state conference and begin an article in the MMTA newsletter.

Maureen Balke served as judge/clinician for more than 40 individual vocal solos on Friday-Saturday at Parma Western High School, which hosted the District 8 MSVMA (Michigan School Vocal Music Association) Solo/Ensemble Festival, January 30-31, 2009.

A new CD recording has been released featuring **Albert Bolitho** (Emeritus Professor of Music). Since his retirement from Albion College, Al has been Director of Music and Organist of First Congregational Church in Battle Creek. The program for this CD was performed in October, 2008 for the church centennial, and includes a piece by Dubois that was played for the opening of the church in 1908. Also included are Bach's *Tocatta in F*, and *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor*, Handel's *Cuckoo and the Nightingale*, Paine's *Variations on Austria*, Sowerby's *Comes Autumn Time*, and Messiaen's *Dieu Parmi Vous*. The CD may be purchased (\$15) by contacting Al at 269-9969-9772, or by email at abolitho@comcast.net.

Danit Brown's (English) collection of short stories, *Ask for a Convertible*, was named one of the Best of 2008 by *The Washington Post*.

Andrew Christopher (Psychology) began his term as editor of Teaching of Psychology on January 1, 2009.

Guy Cox, Kyle Shanton (Education) and **Andrew French** (Chemistry) will be presenting their paper, "The Development of a Multi-Media Dialogue," at the 2009 SOTL Academy, May 18-19, 2009, at Eastern Michigan University.

Trisha Franzen (Women's & Gender Studies) has signed a book contract with the University of Illinois Press for Anna Howard Shaw: A Singular Life. She will also be presenting a paper on Shaw's feminist theory at the Western Association of Women Historians Conference in Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA, in April.

Lia Jensen-Abbott (Music) was asked to chair the high school competition auditions for the Michigan Music Teachers Association. Her responsibilities will be to hire all adjudicators, coordinate and organize all applicants and supervise the high school competition which is held every fall at Michigan State University.

Deborah Kanter's (History) book, Hijos del Pueblo: Gender, Family, and Community in Rural Mexico, 1730-1850 (University of Texas Press) was released January 1, 2009.

Darren Mason (Mathematics & Computer Science) collaborated on the invited plenary talk "Interactions between slip-systems, grain boundaries, heterogeneous deformation, and microcracking in commercially pure Ti" which was presented on January 05, 2009 at the International Symposium on Plasticity and its Applications at the Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Darren's collaborators included T.R. Bieler, M.A. Crimp, Y. Yang, and L. Wang of Michigan State University, P. Eisenlohr, F. Roters, and D. Raabe from the Max-Planck Institut für Eisenforschung, and G.E. Ice of Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Marcy Sacks (History) taught a one-day seminar at the Newberry Library (Chicago) on "Claiming Citizenship in the Post-Emancipation Era." This course was part of the American History Matters Collaborative. She will be lecturing at the Albion Public Library on March 26 in support of the traveling exhibit, "Pride & Passion: The African American Baseball Experience." Her talk is titled, "Take One for the Team: The Integration of Baseball's Minor Leagues." Additionally, **Marcy, Drew Dunham** (Registrar), **Dean McCurdy** (Biology), **Jess Roberts** (English), **William Rose** (Political Science), and **Connie Smith** (Student Affairs) are members of Albion's team participating in the *National Summer Institute on Learning Communities*, June 23-27, 2009, at Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington.

Kyle Shanton (Education) presented a paper, "Leveraging Teacher Leadership in Literacy Professional Development: A Generational Perspective," at the 58th National Reading Conference Annual Meeting, December 3-5, 2008, in Orlando, Florida.

In January, **Vicki Sweitzer** (Economics & Management) was an invited panelist along with faculty and administrators from Oberlin College and Kalamazoo College. The topic was "Faculty Work Life at Liberal Arts College" hosted by the University of Michigan's Center for Research on Learning and Teaching and the Rackham Graduate School.

Thom Wilch (Geological Sciences) is a co-author on a paper that was just accepted in Nature. The paper is a result of ANDRILL work which he has been involved in since 2006-07. The ANDRILL project is a huge (both \$ and personnel) multinational research project. He was on the 5-person team that did the initial (and only) description of the rock core material in Antarctica; his team's basic research is the basis of all subsequent studies. Ellen Cowan, an Albion geology alum

from 1979, was also on the same team and is also a co-author. The Nature paper is the first high impact interpretive paper from the research project. The paper describes a very high resolution record of past environmental (ice sheet/ocean/climate) changes in Antarctica with implications for current climate and ice sheet stability. Nature is the number 1 ranked journal in the world across all science disciplines.

Thom attended the Geological Society of America meeting in Houston, October 5-9. Thom co-authored a paper with Meagan Bosket ('09) on her senior thesis research: "Explosively Erupted Hydrovolcanic Deposits at Minna Saddle, Antarctica: Evidence of Limited Ice-Magma Interaction." Thom Wilch also attended the American Geophysical Meeting Fall Meeting in San Francisco, December 14-19. He gave an oral presentation on "Volcanic and Glacial Geology of the Miocene Minna Bluff Volcanic Complex, Antarctica."

He also co-authored three posters on his NSF-funded Minna Bluff project with colleagues from Bowling Green State University, New Mexico Tech, and the British Antarctic Survey. Meagan Bosket '09 was a co-author on one of the papers. The papers were titled: "Petrology of Inclusion-Rich Lavas at Minna Bluff, Antarctica: Implications for Magma Origin, Differentiation and Eruption Dynamics"; "Evidence for Complex Mixing Processes Controlling the Composition of a Wide Range of Alkaline Volcanic Rocks at Minna Bluff, Antarctica"; and "⁴⁰Ar/³⁹Ar Geochronology of Minna Bluff, Antarctica: Timing of Mid-Miocene Glacial Erosional Events Within the Ross Embayment." Thom also co-authored a poster, "Miocenic subaqueous volcanoclastic deposits in ANDRILL-MIS core", on Antarctic Geological Drilling research with colleagues from the University of Pisa.

IV MISCELLANEOUS

Instructional Technology is developing new services to better serve you, and it needs faculty input.

Are you short on time and resources to find the right technology tools to support that innovative teaching idea? Are you looking for some creative inspiration to engage your students? Are you wondering what a blog or a wiki is, how to capture your lecture and post it on a course web, or what it takes to do a video project?

Please take just a few minutes to ***tell us what you are thinking about.*** Simply ***reply to this email and tell us.*** Be as broad or as specific as you like.

We won't publish your responses - ***we just want to know what you want to know!***

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Melinda Kraft, mkraft@albion.edu
Ralph Houghton, rhoughton@albion.edu
Robin Brubaker, rbrubaker@albion.edu

Albion College has been named to the 2008 President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll by the Corporation for National and Community Service. Our selection to the Honor Roll is recognition from the highest levels of the federal government for our commitment to service and civic engagement on our campus and in our nation. Formal announcement will be made on Monday, February 9, 2009, at the 91st Annual Meeting of the American Council on Education in Washington, DC.