

PROVOST'S BULLETIN

Vol. LII – Bulletin #4

December 2010

NEXT FACULTY MEETING

The next faculty meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 8, 2010, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Campus Center South Lounge. There will also be a second faculty meeting in December on Wednesday, December 15 to discuss the Gen Ed proposal. This meeting will take place in the Campus Center South Lounge from 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 pm.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Carla J. Abodalo (Sociology) hosted delegates from the Kingdom of Bahrain Radio and Television Corporation in conjunction with the Ministry of information and the U.S. Department of State on Albright's campus for the filming of a documentary on Islam: A Shared Vision of Peace. Carla will be featured in the documentary discussing perceptions of Islam and terrorism. The documentary will also feature a small group of her students who were selected for and participated in the project.

Bruce Auerbach (Political Science) and Michelle Reinhart ('11) presented their paper on "Antonin Scalia's Constitutional Textualism: The Problem of Justice to Posterity" at the Northeast Political Science Association Annual Conference in Boston on November 12, 2010. The paper, the culmination of a summer ACRE grant they received in 2010, was presented at a panel entitled *A Matter of Interpretation: Thoughts on American Theory and Jurisprudence*, chaired by Beau Breslin, Professor of Government at Skidmore College. Ms Reinhart and Dr. Auerbach are working on revisions to the paper based on its positive reception at the Conference.

Adlai Binger (Music) and the **Albright Angels** were guest artists at the "Sweet Soundations" choral festival held at Central Dauphin High School in Harrisburg, PA on November 5, 2010. This Middle School Women's Choral Festival was comprised of 200 young women representing twenty different schools. The participants spent the day rehearsing several selections under the direction of a guest conductor. The Albright Angels performed seven selections to open the festival concert. The performance by the Albright Angels at this event provided the opportunity for the younger festival singers to hear and see singers at a higher level of development providing insight and inspiration. Educationally, the experience enabled the young singers to witness and realize their future performing potential. The Albright Angels gained performing experience in addition to acting as ambassadors for Albright College, and role models for the young singers.

Tom Brogan (Political Science) addressed the Twin Valley Rotary on November 17 on the 2010 Election results.

Guillaume de Syon (History) was interviewed by Salon.com and Good.com for features on airline food. Click on a link to read the story:

http://www.salon.com/food/francis_lam/2010/11/11/why_airplane_food_sucks

<http://www.good.is/post/don-t-touch-my-junk-food-why-airline-meals-aren-t-better/>.

Guillaume also published an essay on "The Einsatzgruppen and the Issue of 'Ordinary Men,' in the Routledge History of the Holocaust (ed. J. Friedman), and gave a paper on the genesis of the French military airship program at the eighth International Airship Conference held in Bedford, UK, in October.

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Marsha Green (Psychology) has been appointed as Head of the U. S. Delegation for the International Standards Organization's Subcommittee on the Marine Environment to study underwater irradiated noise and its impact on the marine ecosystem. This committee is developing international standards for noise levels in the ocean. The primary sources of harmful underwater noise are shipping, air guns used for oil and gas exploration and military sonar.

Richard Hamwi (Art) will have an exhibition of his artwork at the Art Association of Harrisburg, located at 21 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA, December 3, 2010 - January 6, 2011. Gallery hours are Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 am - 9 pm., Fri. 9:30 am - 4 pm, Sat. 10 am - 4 pm., and Sun. 2-5 pm.

Ethan Joella (ESL/English) has a poem appearing in the most recent issue of *Some Ways to Disappear*, a biannual publication of photography and literature in the United Kingdom. Also, Ethan's essay "In Breach of Story: Breaking the Shackles of Traditional Fiction" has been translated by the Spanish publisher Arco/Libros and published in the anthology *Poéticas del microrrelato*.

Kate Lehman (Communications) presented on a roundtable with Albright students Sarah Bruno and Sarah Bear at the "Feminism in Practice" conference at Lehigh University in November. Their roundtable discussed ways to engage women's history in education and activism. She also presented her research on feminist media criticism and independent media production at two national conferences, the National Women's Studies Association conference in Denver and the American Studies Association conference in San Antonio, and also organized panels for both conferences.

Michele Mislevy (Education) and **Karen Jogan** (MFL) were speakers at the annual conference of Penn TESOL (the Pennsylvania affiliate of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) held at Penn State Abington. Their session was "Teachers Behaving Badly?... Copyright in the Digital Age."

Claudia Strauss (English and Communication) focuses on aspects of engagement between people who have diagnoses of dementia and people who don't in an article appearing in *The Person-Centered Journal*, Vol. 17 No. 1-2, 2010. "Alzheimer's and Authenticity: A Person-Centered Framework that Promotes Mutuality and Reciprocity" explores the role of perception, traps that can undermine therapeutic intent, and how to identify approaches that boomerang in a good way sustaining both parties in the relationship.

PROVOST'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Events:

Winter 2010 Commencement: Saturday, December 18, 2010, 2:00 p.m. in the Chapel. Approximately 70 students from the traditional, adult and graduate programs will be graduating. (NOTE: In case of inclement weather, commencement will be held on December 19, 2010, same time, same place.)

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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:

December 8, 2010 – 12:00 – 1:00, Topic: Creative Use of Technology

February 10, 2011 – 12:30 – 1:10, Topic: Fourth Hour

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

The Council on Undergraduate Research will be hosting **“CUR Dialogues”** on February 24-26, 2010 at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza in Washington, DC. CUR Dialogues is designed to bring faculty and administrators to Washington, D.C. to interact with federal agency program officers and other grant funders. Workshops and plenary sessions will tell participants about grant opportunities in research and education, both new and ongoing; assist faculty learn how to find new funding opportunities; and assist faculty develop grant proposal writing skills. Program officers from NIH, NEH, NEA and others will be there. For more information visit: <http://www.cur.org/cd.html>

The 2011 *Teaching Professor* Conference will be held May 20-22 in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference is an exploration of the art and science of good teaching. Join colleagues from campuses nationwide to discover and discuss the latest tools and techniques for the job you love. For more information, visit www.teachingprofessor.com

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History and the Council of Independent Colleges, with the United Negro College Fund, will cosponsor a seminar to be held at Yale University on June 12-15, 2011. This multidisciplinary seminar is open to full-time faculty members in history, English, and related fields. David Blight, Class of 1954 Professor of American History at Yale University and award-winning author of *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* and the recently published, *A Slave No More: Two men Who Escaped to Freedom, Including their Narratives of Emancipation*, has enthusiastically agreed to lead the seminar on Slave Narratives for a fourth year in a row. This seminar offers a superb opportunity for members of our faculties to strengthen their teaching and to recharge their intellectual batteries. For more information including guidelines and the nomination form itself are available on CIC's website at www.cic.edu/projects_services/coops/gilder_lehrman.asp

Save the Date for Thursday, February 10, 2011 at 4 pm in the South Lounge for **A Faculty Workshop on Service-Learning**. Your former colleague, Dr. James D. Huck, has graciously agreed to share his expertise with us as part of the **Grand Opening of the Geiser House for Experiential Learning**. Dr. Huck is currently the Assistant Director for Graduate Programs at Tulane University's Center for Latin American Studies, and serves as the Faculty Scholar for the Center for Public Service.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

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David Tanner, the new director for the Center for the Arts, recently was selected to be the arts blogger for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

The Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE) launched its tenure track faculty survey last month in which Albright faculty are participants. COACHE is a consortium of more than 160 colleges and universities across North America that is dedicated to making the academic workplace more attractive and equitable. COACHE is based within the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and participation in its survey will allow us to pinpoint focus on early career academic success and give us a competitive advantage in faculty recruitment, retention, and development.

We will use the survey results, which are returned to us stripped of all identifying material, to make policies and practices more effective. Although we already have an incredibly high response rate at this point in the survey, the closer to 100% participation we can get, the more accurate our results will be in regards to both internal and external comparisons. We want to thank all of you who have already responded and encourage those of you who received an email link to fill it out as soon as possible. When the results come in next year, we are planning a Dean's Seminar to discuss what issues were uncovered, what we appear to have done well, and what improvements we can make. After the completion of the initial survey, a second survey will be given in three years for comparative purposes.

The Assessment Committee meets the 4th Monday of each month. At its last meeting the committee adopted its revised "Mission, Responsibilities, Membership, and Terms of Office." Its revised membership includes two faculty from each academic division, a faculty representative from ADP, a faculty liaison from the EPC, an administrator from each of the five administrative divisions, a liaison to the Strategic Planning Committee, the Director of Institutional Research, the Assessment Director, and two students. The committee is still seeking two faculty representatives from the Social Sciences division. The committee is currently reviewing assessment information included in department and division year-end reports and will include assessment methods from each department and division in an "Inventory of Current Assessment Practices at Albright."

Brian Buerke, Joe Thomas, and Dean Foster will present "Closing the Loop on Standards 7 and 14" at the Middle States Commission for Higher Education's Annual Conference on December 9th. The presentation will include examples of assessment results, allocation of resources and improvements based on those results at the institutional, program, and course levels. Brian, Joe, Dean and Samantha Wesner will make a slightly modified presentation at the Cabinet meeting on December 7.