

# The Academic Bulletin

from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College  
Friday, September 30, 2016

## Of Heads, Hands, and Hearts

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One very interesting task of the academic deans is to interview all prospective faculty. Every candidate gets a copy of the *Expanded Statement of Mission* (along with other materials), and we discuss the college's mission statement: Calvin College equips students to think deeply, to act justly, and to live wholeheartedly as Christ's agents of renewal in the world. I really like the way that the statement includes head, hands, and heart. Indeed, it could be paraphrased as "Heads, hands, and hearts in Christ's service." Another of the handouts is published by the CRC and titled *What It Means to Be Reformed*. That booklet gives a bit of the history of the CRC and structures much of its discussion around what it calls the three approaches to being Reformed: doctrinalist, transformationalist, and pietist—which can be paraphrased as head, hand, and heart. The booklet includes discussions of the tensions among these emphases within the CRC and of the risks of a possible overemphasis on just one. Recently the college has developed an educational framework, and it too can be seen as covering the three domains, as it speaks of learning (head), citizenship (hands), and faith (heart), all tied together in vocation. Our goal is to equip students—heads, hands, and hearts—to get out there and do something important. But then our statements end. As far as our students go, our job as college is to do the equipping; their job is to actually be the agents of renewal and to follow where God calls.

A few weeks ago in church, our pastor read a few verses from Ephesians 4 that also talk about equipping for service. But what struck me as he read is that the verses don't quit at the idea of service, but continue with a "so that" and an "until": "So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." These verses have prompted me to think about the college as a community of believers, and to think in terms not just of what we might want our students to do someday out there in the world but of what we can do (what I can do) right here and now both collectively and individually as agents of renewal. I am thinking about how we are (how I am) doing at this unity and maturity stuff and "attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." But what does that mean? The text keeps going and talks about all being part of one body. Here's verse 16: "From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work." Now that's something to aspire to.

*Stanley Haan, academic dean*

## Welcome to New Faculty

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**Aleen Rose** joins the college as a developmental mathematics instructor/counselor on a renewable-term appointment in academic services. Aleen grew up in the UP but has lived in lower Michigan since college. She studied psychology and special education at GVSU, learning disabilities at MSU, and mathematics at Aquinas. She worked at West Ottawa High School and the Dunes Alternative HS for the past 20 years as a resource teacher and mathematics teacher. Aleen is also a busy mom of 3 girls and 1 boy (ages 13, 12, 7, 5).

**Trent Salo**, affiliated professor in the Kinesiology Department, is originally from the eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan, and has spent the last 5 years teaching and completing his graduate education at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, and at the University of St. Augustine (Florida). He is a Calvin alumnus (2011), a licensed physical therapist, and believes life is too short for bad coffee.

## Disability Coordinators Q&A Session

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You are invited to attend a brown bag Q&A session with the disability coordinators. Bring your lunch on Tuesday, October 18, at 12:00 noon–1:00 p.m. in the President's Conference Room (SC 382), and join an informal conversation about the work of the disability coordinators at Calvin. If you have questions or concerns, this is the opportunity to discuss them. No RSVP required.

## From the Faculty Activity Reports

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- David Urban (English), “Matters of Conscience,” [\*Liberty Matters: A Forum for the Discussion of Matters Pertaining to Liberty\*](#), July 2016.
- Crystal Bruxvoort (Chemistry and Biochemistry), “The Impact of Video Case Content on Pre-service Elementary Teachers’ Decision-Making and Conceptions of Effective Science Teaching,” [\*Journal of Research in Science Teaching\*](#), August 5, 2016.
- Robert Schoone-Jongen (History), “Names, Still Voices, and the Master’s Voice” (lecture, South-west Minnesota Christian Teachers’ Association fall meeting, Edgerton, MN, August 22, 2016).

Be sure to [fill out](#) your Faculty Activity Reports regularly. If you have questions, see the [FAQ page](#).

## Coming Up on Campus (Check the [campus calendar](#) for a full list of events)

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### Monday, October 3

- Chapel. Sandra Maria Van Opstal. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

### Tuesday, October 4

- Chapel. Testimonies from the Calvin prison ministry. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Physics and Astronomy seminar. Larry Molnar and students, “What’s the Latest on the Merging Star Hypothesis?” 3:45 p.m., SB 110

### Wednesday, October 5

- Chapel. Sounds of African worship. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Asian Studies lecture. Colin Smith, 3:30 p.m., Commons Annex Lecture Hall Lobby
- Lecture. Mads Gilbert, on his experiences in Gaza during the Israeli invasions of 2008 and 2014. 7:00 p.m., CFAC auditorium

### Thursday, October 6

- Chapel. Taizé with Karen Saupe and Debra Rienstra. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Chemistry seminar. Jonathon VanderZandee (U of Georgia), “Rational Design of Ligands for CO<sub>2</sub> Catalysis.” 11:30 a.m., SB 010

### Friday, October 7

- Calvin Center for Innovation in Business. Live2Lead ([Register](#) by October 3). 9:00 a.m., CFAC Recital Hall
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Biology seminar. Jay Hollman (Louisiana State U), “How Do We Get Sick?” 1:30 p.m., SB 010
- Christian Perspectives in Science seminar. Stan Rosenberg (U of Oxford), “Can Nature be ‘Red in Tooth and Claw’ in the Thought of Augustine? The Later Invention and Misunderstanding of a Major Theologian.” 3:30 p.m., SB 110