

The Academic Bulletin

from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College

Friday, March 9, 2018

Midterm Progress Evaluations: A New Approach

In response to feedback from Calvin faculty and staff, the Student Success team is implementing a new and simplified approach to collecting midterm progress-evaluation information from instructors. Instead of sending an individual evaluation form for each student in separate email messages, we will provide instructors with summary lists that include all students in their courses who are participating in targeted interventions (academic probation, academic warning, Access, etc.) during the spring 2018 term. Beginning next week (March 12–16), we will ask instructors to review their lists and register evaluative comments about any of the listed students using the one-stop student-concern form at calvin.edu/go/concern. We believe that this modified process will be more efficient for both the instructors and those assigned to follow up.

In addition to the process changes outlined above, all faculty and staff are encouraged to use this same [online form](#) to submit concerns for *any* student related to advising, academic performance, behavior, class attendance, or wellness. These concerns are carefully reviewed by the Student Success staff and provide the team with key information needed for tailoring individual interventions and support. Furthermore, this form is a key component of our cross-divisional Coordinated Care Program, which enables us to collaborate well with multiple campus partners to ensure that we are supporting students in the most appropriate and comprehensive ways.

As always, we are grateful to the Calvin faculty for their overwhelming support of this and many other college retention efforts!

Todd Dornbos, director of retention

The Student Conference Support Fund (SCSF)

Faculty are reminded that the SCSF exists to defray conference travel costs for Calvin undergraduates who are scheduled to present work completed under a faculty-supervised research/scholarship project whose costs are not fully covered by budgets. Please see the [website](#) for more information.

From the Faculty Activity Reports

- Albert Boerema (Education), “Five Theses on Christian Education Leadership” (lecture, Lumina College Research Institute International Conference, Hong Kong, China, January 26, 2018).
- Stacy De Ruiter (Mathematics and Statistics), “[Individual, Ecological, and Anthropogenic Influences on Activity Budgets of Long-Finned Pilot Whales](#),” *Ecosphere* 8, no. 12 (December 27, 2017).
- Lee Hardy (Philosophy), “The Meaning of Martha: Catholics and Protestants on Work and Vocation,” *Calvin Theological Seminary Forum* 25, no. 2 (Fall 2017): 13–15.

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)

Monday, March 12

- Chapel. Jul Medenblik. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- World Affairs Council lecture. Susan Glasser, "Putin, Russia, and the New Cold War?" 12:00 noon, CFAC Recital Hall
- Religion Department lecture. J. J. M. Roberts, "Second Isaiah's Herald of Good Tidings: Contemporary Reflections on the Role of Women and the Biblical Languages in the Church." 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall

Tuesday, March 13

- Chapel. Taizé with Karen Saupe and Debra Rienstra. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- President's Coffee. 12:00 noon (11:30 a.m. refreshments). CFAC recital hall
- Asian Studies lecture. Annie Hongping Nie (U of Oxford), "Contemporary Chinese Nationalism: Online Gaming and the Remembrance of China's War with Japan." 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall
- Henry Institute lecture. David Crump, "Kingdom Mistakes and Their Consequences: From Abraham Kuyper to the Religious Right." 3:30 p.m., Commons Annex alumni board room
- Faculty Senate meeting. 4:30 p.m., Hoogenboom 280

Wednesday, March 14

- Chapel. Jazz prayers with the Jazz Combo. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

Thursday, March 15

- Chapel. Sounds of Latino worship with Rodrigo Cano. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Mathematics and Statistics colloquium. David Austin (GVSU), "The Card Game Set." 3:40 p.m., NH 276

Friday, March 16

- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Biology seminar. Jonathan Knott, "Species and Community Responses to Climate Change in Eastern US Forests." 1:30 p.m., SB 010