

# The Academic Bulletin

from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College

Friday, April 13, 2018

## Coloring outside the Lines: An On-Campus CCE Seminar in Biology

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For a few years now, I have been mentoring an on-campus CCE seminar for students of color in the sciences. Initially inspired by the comments of some of my advisees, I set up a seminar to provide a safe space for students of color to debrief on their experiences growing up or living in North America, and more specifically their experiences at Calvin.

The seminar, typically with just five to seven students, is held each spring term. We meet weekly for one hour and discuss papers, watch videos, host occasional speakers, and talk about current events both on and off campus. At the end of the semester each student writes a paper in which they tell their story of how they ended up at Calvin and how they think Calvin can become more welcoming to students and faculty of color. One of the students invested extra time in helping me produce a reader of edited papers from previous students. Our department used this reader as the focus of a colloquium in which we discussed why students of color are underrepresented in the sciences and how our department could be more affirming and encouraging of students of color.

Groups have included a variety of students from AHANA students to international students to a student with Asperger's Syndrome. The conversations that occur in this group have been rich, honest, and insightful. I have learned so much (and had my heart broken) by listening to the stories of these students and having discussions with them about identity, white privilege, affirmative action, and the challenges of developing friendships across cultures. We have developed a habit of ending each semester with a meal together, where students are encouraged to prepare a dish that represents their cultural heritage. These are incredibly celebratory times and present a small, yet precious vision of the beauty of the coming kingdom.

*Dave Warners, Biology Department*

If you are interested in exploring how you or your department(s) might develop an on-campus option for important dialog and learning like this that can fulfill the cross-cultural engagement graduation requirement while building community, please contact [CCE@calvin.edu](mailto:CCE@calvin.edu).

*Pennylyn Dykstra-Pruim, associate dean for diversity and inclusion*

## Faculty Awards, 2018

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Congratulations to the recipients of the faculty awards for 2018, to be honored—along with the winner of the Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching—at the Tributes and Awards Dinner on Friday, May 4:

- Community-Based Teaching: **Emily Helder** and **Marji Gunnoe** (Psychology)
- *From Every Nation* Award for Excellence in Teaching: **Kaori Schau** (Germanic and Asian Languages and Literature)
- Student-Faculty Research: **Kevin den Dulk** (Political Science) and **Joel Adams** (Computer Science)
- Teaching Excellence (for affiliated and adjunct faculty): **Crystal Barrett** (Biology) and **Nancy Van Noord** (Kinesiology)

## Teach—Lunch—Connect (TLC)

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Build community, connect with colleagues, engage in discussions about good teaching.

- Who? Any two teaching colleagues.
- What? Visit each other teaching. Go to lunch or breakfast together and discuss how you teach and why.
- When? Any time before the end of spring semester.

Sign up for TLC and request your breakfast or lunch tickets for Knollcrest or Commons by emailing [Betsy Jacobsen](#). Fifteen pairs of tickets are available. Sponsored by the associate dean for diversity and inclusion.

## WRITE NIGHT

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Please invite your students to participate in WRITE NIGHT on Monday, April 23, from 7:00 p.m. to midnight in the library. This event provides an opportunity for members of the Calvin community to make significant progress on writing projects in the company of other writers. The RC and the reference desk will be open, and faculty are encouraged to hold office hours in the library. Free coffee and refreshments will be available, as well as prizes, incentives, and accountability tools to motivate writers. Contact [Karen Saupe](#) for more information.

## From the Faculty Activity Reports

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- Carl Plantinga (Communication Arts and Sciences), *Screen Stories: Emotion and the Ethics of Engagement* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018).
  - Stacy De Ruiter (Mathematics and Statistics), “Regression and Resampling to Review Continental-Scale Effects of Noise on North American Songbirds” (lecture, GVSU, Allendale, MI, Feb 8, 2018).
  - Joseph Kuilema (Social Work), “Reclaiming the Prophetic Imagination,” *The Banner*, March 2018.
- 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, April 16

- Chapel. Joanna Wigboldy. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

### Tuesday, April 17

- Academic advising; no chapel
- President’s Coffee. 12:00 noon (11:30 a.m. refreshments). CFAC recital hall

### Wednesday, April 18

- Academic advising; no chapel
- Heritage Class lecture. Tom Newhof, “Water, Water Everywhere. Are We Good Stewards of This Precious Resource?” [Register here](#). 3:00 p.m., CFAC recital hall
- Honors Convocation. 7:30 p.m., CFAC auditorium

### Thursday, April 19

- Chapel. Sounds of Korean worship, with Heh Jim Lee. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

### Friday, April 20

- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Asian Studies lecture. Kimberly Harui (Arizona State U), “Decadence and Destruction: The Revelry of Tang Emperor Xuanzong That Culminated in An Lush’s Rebellion.” 3:30 p.m., Commons Annex lecture hall