Learning Together

I am two months into a new role for me and for Calvin College—a position focused on making ways for faculty to thrive in their work. I’m learning a lot! Our work as faculty is about learning. We learn with students in classrooms, laboratories, studios, and offices. We learn about creation and culture in our scholarship, performance, and professional work. I see our shared learning as gospel work—a kind of living and messy prayer that longs to realize the coming kingdom. The first chapter of Paul’s letter to the Colossians is a celebration of the gospel work that we share. Eugene Peterson’s contemporized translation of a portion of this passage (vv. 18–20) provides a glimpse of Christ’s coming kingdom:

He was supreme in the beginning and—leading the resurrection parade—he is supreme in the end. From beginning to end he’s there, towering far above everything, everyone. So spacious is he, so roomy, that everything of God finds its proper place in him without crowding. Not only that, but all the broken and dislocated pieces of the universe—people and things, animals and atoms—get properly fixed and fit together in vibrant harmonies, all because of his death, his blood that poured down from the cross.

It is a joy for me to learn more about the work of Calvin faculty that hastens and celebrates vibrant harmonies in God’s world.

Over the next couple months I will be meeting with departments for a conversation around faculty development at Calvin. I look forward to this opportunity to keep learning about how best to support faculty in their kingdom work at Calvin.

David Wunder, dean for faculty development

From the Faculty Activity Reports


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

Reminder: Student Attendance Concerns

When you notice attendance problems with a student, make an initial attempt to address the problem by contacting the student directly. If attendance issues persist, please visit http://www.calvin.edu/go/concern to submit an attendance check. You will be directed to a concern form, where you can select “attendance” as the reason for your concern. The form may also be used to report other concerns for students (academic progress, classroom behavior, retention concerns, etc.). Questions? Contact Thea Brophy, co-director for Student Success (tjb28@calvin.edu).
Coming Up on Campus (Check the campus calendar for a full list of events)

**Monday, October 15**
- Chapel. Shannon Jammal Hollemans, “Before Abraham Was: I AM (John 8:58).” 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- **Faculty assembly.** Business meeting begins at 7:00 p.m., Prince Conference Center. Dinner at 6:15 by previous RSVP.

**Tuesday, October 16**
- New Advising Software Demo Day. 3:30 p.m., NH 078
- Chapel. Bob Crow and Joella Ranaivoson, “Lectio Divina.” 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- President’s Coffee. 1:00 p.m. (refreshments at 12:30 p.m.), CFAC Recital Hall

**Wednesday, October 17**
- New Advising Software Demo Day. 3:30 p.m., SB 110
- Chapel. Faith story with Pastor Mary and Pearl Shangkuan (Music). 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- History colloquium. Denice Fett, “An Assassin, a Codpiece, and Onion Juice: Intrigue and Plot in Elizabethan London.” 3:30 p.m., Commons Annex Alumni Board Room
- The 4:04 gathering. Julie Yonker. 4:04 p.m., 3rd floor Hekman Library

**Thursday, October 18**
- New Advising Software Demo Day. 10:00 a.m., SB 110
- Chapel. Sounds of American folk worship with Luke Enders. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Flu clinic. 10:00 a.m. Health Services
- Mathematics and Statistics Colloquium. Michele Intermont (Kalamazoo College). 3:40 p.m., NH 276

**Friday, October 19**
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Science Division poster fair. 12:30 p.m., DeVries Hall level-two lobby