The Academic Bulletin
from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College
Friday, October 26, 2018

Mediated Space

The campus seems to be abuzz about coffee. One may say, facetiously, that coffee fuels the academic enterprise, from early-morning administrative meetings to late-night student paper-writing. For me, as a non-coffee drinker, coffee has been about space, and from all accounts there is great anticipation for Peet's to arrive in Hekman.

The banner for the library that hangs at Convocation and Commencement describes the library as Gatherer and Receptacle. This has been true of libraries, especially since the explosion of cheap printing in the mid-nineteenth century, but it presents a limited view of the library. It is library as utility. Fellow Michigan librarians Denise Leyton and Joshua Ethan Sanchez have said that “the library is not just one big study hall like other unmediated study locations on campus, or a coffee shop. . . . [I]t can be an intentional, purposeful place where our campus community comes to experience and enact their independent and collaborative learning, research and community building.”

This view of space, even a coffee shop space, reinforces the idea that libraries are about connections—connecting people to people, people to ideas, and, people to resources. The Hekman Library’s space is mediated space as librarians assist students to navigate the wealth of resources, and other staff develop or enhance tools to locate and engage materials. Library space is provided with intention as collaborative spaces are equipped with tools for learning, and mobile whiteboards and computing stations are deployed throughout.

In the Council on Library and Information Resources report “Library as Place” (2005), Geoffrey T. Freeman wonders, “If faculty, scholars, and students can now obtain information in any format and access it anywhere on campus, then why does the library, as a physical place, play such an important role in the renewal and advancement of an institution’s intellectual life?”

I resonate with Freeman when he replies that the library is the “only centralized location where new and emerging information technologies can be combined with traditional knowledge resources in a user-focused, service-rich environment that supports today’s social and educational patterns of learning, teaching, and research.” It is central to supporting our campus’s intellectual community and scholarly enterprise. Libraries (and coffee) make the academic world go ‘round.

David Malone, dean of the Hekman Library

CCCS Major-Grant Recipients

Please congratulate colleagues who have been awarded major grants from the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship for 2019–20:

- Julie Yonker (Psychology), Amy Wilstemann (Biology), and Rachael Baker (Chemistry): “Team Science and Christian Practices”

Useful Rhetoric Resources

The RAC Committee requests that you visit the student resources site on the Rhetoric Center homepage. Please consider how you might use these resources in your teaching, and contribute to the resources yourself.
From the Faculty Activity Reports

- Debra Snyder (Business), “Managerial Accounting: Teaching Character, Virtues, Spiritual Formation, and the IMA Statement of Ethical Professionals” (lecture, Christian Business Faculty Association Annual Conference, Chattanooga, TN, October 6, 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)

**Monday, October 29**
- Chapel. Gary Burge, “I AM: The good shepherd (John 10:11).” 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- English lecture. Julia Lupton (U of California, Irvine), “Shakespeare’s Virtues.” 7:00 p.m., Chapel

**Tuesday, October 30**
- Chapel. Lectio Divina with Bob Crow and Joella Ranaivoson. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- English lecture. Julia Lupton (U of California, Irvine), “Trust in Theater.” 3:30 p.m., Center Art Gallery
- Physics and Astronomy seminar. Alex Van Kooten, “Distinguishing Stellar Populations within Milky Way Globular Star Clusters.” 3:45 p.m., SB 110
- Sexuality Series simulation. “A Journey in Their Shoes.” Register here. 6:30 p.m., DeVos lobby

**Wednesday, October 31**
- Chapel. All Saints’ Day observance. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**Thursday, November 1**
- Chapel. Sounds of gospel worship, with Nate Glasper Jr. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- CALL Noontime Lecture series. Quentin Schultze, “How to Communicate.” 12:00 noon, Chapel
- Mathematics and Statistics colloquium. Mike McDaniel (Aquinas). 3:40 p.m., NH 276
- The 4:04 gathering. Amy Wilstermann (Biology). 4:04 p.m., Hekman Library, 3rd floor

**Friday, November 2**
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Biology seminar. Yanhua Huang (U of Pittsburgh), “Sleep-Mediated Regulation of Natural and Drug Reward.” 1:30 p.m., SB 010