Wednesday Classes on Saturday?

Writing to you here, in the Academic Bulletin, is a refreshing change from what I’ve been writing most of this week—announcements like this:

**Wednesday class schedule to occur on Saturday, February 5**

Because of the weather disruptions this week, we will hold classes on Saturday, Feb. 5, following the Wednesday schedule. This will include classes scheduled for Wednesday evening.

**Of course, I’m kidding.** But seriously, after this week, would Saturday classes really come as a surprise? This week challenged us all to rise above the weather, to be flexible, to prioritize what we must accomplish in our classes, and to keep good spirits (despite cabin fever). Thank you for taking on the peculiar challenges of this week. (There will be no further adjustments to class schedules as a result of this past week.)

As we begin second semester, I want to signal two things that you will be invited to participate in before spring break. In the press of your significant everyday responsibilities, I hope you will carve out time for these:

1. **Faculty Discussion Groups.** You should have received an email last week inviting you to participate in a discussion about revising faculty reappointment criteria. If you missed that message, you can find it [here](#). Dates and times have been set, and if you are willing to participate, please contact Betsy Jacobsen so that we know how many to anticipate.

2. **Strategic Planning.** Beginning mid-February and lasting through spring break, faculty and staff will have additional opportunities both to review the goals and strategies of the college’s strategic plan, and to consider the emerging initiatives (the actual work of the plan). Stay tuned for invitations to participate. Many, many thanks to all of you who provided suggestions at the December open house, by email, and through your responses to the January survey.

As the semester unfolds, you will also hear more about these three things in particular:

- The academic transition to a university
- Core curriculum discussion reset
- The work of the Academic Program Review subcommittee of PPC

As always, thank you for all you do. As I work with colleagues across campus, I am always impressed by the myriad large and small, creative, and impressive ways that faculty and staff support our students. I invite you to be on the lookout for these (you will not need to look far) and, when you find one, to take a moment to thank your colleagues for their good work.

*Cheryl Brandsen, provost*

Lilly Program Book Award Nominations Due

Please consider nominating a colleague for the 2019 Lilly Fellows Program Book Award. Full details [here](#).
Grand Rapids Symphony Discount

Calvin College is an official Grand Rapids Symphony sponsor which enables all employees to receive a 30% discount on tickets to Grand Rapids Symphony performances!

Upcoming Concerts:
- Tchaikovsky Festival | Friday and Saturday, Feb. 8-9 | DeVos Hall
- Symphony with Soul – Black Violin | Saturday, Feb. 16 | DeVos Hall
- The Romantic Concert | Friday, Feb. 22 | St. Cecilia Music Center
- Lockington Conducts Elgar | Friday, March 1 | DeVos Hall

Questions, contact: Rachel Webster at rwebster@grsymphony.org

From the Faculty Activity Reports

- **Jolene Vos-Camy** (French), “Saint Francois de Sales” (lecture, L’Abri Fellowship, Huemoz, Switzerland, January 11, 2019).

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, February 4**
- Chapel. Re-gathering. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- SLC blood drive. 12:00 noon. Chapel Undercroft

**Tuesday, February 5**
- Chapel. Jul Medenblik. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- SLC blood drive. 12:00 noon. Chapel Undercroft
- World Affairs Council lecture. Barbara Stephenson, “State of the State Department.” 12:00 noon, CFAC Recital Hall
- Sexuality Series lecture. Justin Lee and Ron Belgau, “Talking Across the Divide on Same-sex Marriage.” 7:00 p.m., CFAC Recital Hall
- The 4:04 gathering. Kristin Du Mez. 4:04 p.m., 3rd floor Hekman Library

**Wednesday, February 6**
- Chapel. Sounds of African worship with Nii Adoteye Anum. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- SLC blood drive. 12:00 noon. Chapel Undercroft

**Thursday, February 7**
- Chapel. Lectio Divina with Bob Crow and Joella Ranaivoson. 10:00 a.m., Chapel

**Friday, February 8**
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Biology seminar. Abigail Armstrong (U of Colorado), “Microbes and Immune Cells and Diet...Oh My!: The Gut Microbiome in People Living with HIV.” 1:30 p.m., DeVries Hall 010