Integration of Faith and Learning

As I write this brief note, I am sitting in the Prince Conference Center, waiting for faculty who will be interviewed by a team from the Board of Trustees (BOT). These are regular faculty members who have been recommended by PSC for their first reappointment, for tenure, or for a five-year renewable-term appointment. Members of BOT interviewing teams receive a brief biographical sketch of each faculty candidate as well as the candidate’s statement on Reformed Christian approaches to faith and learning.

To prepare for the interviews today, I reread these faith and learning statements and was filled with a sense of shared mission, delight, and humility. I am so glad that God brought me to a place where I can think about my faith and my discipline alongside other faculty members. In my previous positions in the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, I had few opportunities to discuss matters of faith integration with the knowledgeable scientists I worked with. And I also had few opportunities to discuss matters of faith integration with my church family, as very few of them had interest in or knowledge of science.

The discussions, workshops, seminars, and reading groups that I have been part of since becoming a Calvin faculty member have truly deepened my faith. I have been delighted to learn about how colleagues integrate their faith with their disciplines, especially in areas outside my own, as I get wonderful glimpses of the fulness of creation through their eyes. I am also humbled, as this is hard work, and there is so much that we do not understand.

I remember how I struggled to write the faith and learning statement at my first reappointment, so I am particularly grateful for the resources that the college has been given to help all of us think better about how we integrate our faith with our work at Calvin. As part of the Global Faculty Development Initiative, new faculty who participated in the Kuiper Seminar in January 2019 will have a course release during the 2019-2020 academic year for intentional development in the area of faith and learning integration. Stay tuned for upcoming seminars and conferences as part of this initiative.

Arlene Hoogewerf, academic dean

Nominate a Student to be a Paid Presidential Fellow

The Office of the President is launching a Presidential Fellows Program. Elite students will fill paid positions and be given unique access to Calvin College administration, leadership and professional development training, office experience, research opportunities, and the opportunity to learn more about all aspects of higher education. Open to all majors. Know someone who would be good for this position? Nominate them. Questions? Email Selvi Bunce, intern for the Office of the President.

Faculty Focus Groups on Reappointment Criteria

There’s still time to sign up for a faculty focus group on reappointment criteria. Contact Betsy Jacobsen, bij2@calvin.edu, 6-6871, to sign up or ask questions.

Safer Spaces Workshops for Faculty and Staff

Interested in developing your expertise on the college’s safer spaces work? On Thursday and Friday, February 21-22, 2019, the college will be offering a series of informational sessions and workshops about Calvin’s safer spaces policy, Title IX, and conducting investigations related to safer spaces allegations or faculty misconduct allegations. Sessions will be organized in such a way that people can attend those that work with their schedules, even if they are not able to attend the entire time. Contact Heidi Rienstra, hrienstr@calvin.edu, 6-8604, with questions.
Independent Innovators Network Call for Proposals

The Michigan Colleges Alliance is pleased to announce the fourth round of its student entrepreneurship scholarship challenge: The Independent Innovators Network scholarship. The program awards scholarships of up to $7,500 based on the strength of student applications in outlining a business or social entrepreneurship concept. Faculty sponsor stipends of $500 are provided for successful proposals as well. Applications are due to MCA by March 1, 2019, and should be submitted online.

From the Faculty Activity Reports

- **Corey Roberts** (Germanic and Asian Languages and Literatures), “Aufklärung für Offenbarung? Überlegungen zu den religiösen Ursprüngen der Literatur” (lecture, Institut für Evangelische Theologie, Justus-Liebig-Universität, Giessen, Germany, January 22, 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 11**
- Chapel. Faith Storytelling with Michelle Loyd-Paige. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- The 4:04 gathering. Bill Romanowski. 4:04 p.m., Hekman Library, third floor

**Tuesday, February 12**
- Chapel. Matt Postma. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- World Affairs lecture series. Carol Schaeffer, “Democracy on the Run: Dispatches from Eastern Europe” 12:00 noon, CFAC recital hall
- Faculty Senate meeting. 4:30 p.m., Hoogenboom 280

**Wednesday, February 13**
- Chapel. Sounds of American Folk Worship with Luke Enders. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- President’s Coffee. 12:30 p.m. (12:00 refreshments), CFAC Recital Hall

**Thursday, February 14**
- Chapel. Lectio Divina with Bob Crow and Joella Ranaivoson. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- CALL Noontime lecture series. Larry Gerbens, “The Life and Work of Artist John Swanson.” 12:00 noon, Woodlawn Ministry Center
- Workshop. Telling the Calvin Story: Public Speaking for Career Success. 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall
- Mathematics and Statistics colloquium. Stacy DeRuiter. 3:40 p.m., NH 276
- Nursing seminar. Dawn Frambes, “A collaborative interprofessional fall prevention program for aging seniors.” 5:00 p.m., SB 110

**Friday, February 15**
- Chapel. Student worship team. 10:00 a.m., Chapel
- Biology seminar. Jon Terry, “Lessons of a Failed Biologist.” 1:30 p.m., DeVries Hall 010
- GEO seminar. Melinda Higley, “Archives of Climate Variability on Kiritimati: Lacustrine, Aeolian, and Remote Sensing Perspectives.” 3:30 p.m., NH 078