

# THE DEANERY

ALBION COLLEGE  
ACADEMIC NEWSLETTER

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE NEXT DEANERY ARE DUE MARCH 9, 2020.**

## I ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM COMMITTEES

### Curriculum & Resources Committee:

C&RC approved revisions to the Writing Proficiency Requirement to allow students to satisfy the requirement by either receiving a 5 or higher on one of the International Baccalaureate higher level English tests or transferring a writing course that counts.

#### **College Writing Proficiency Requirement excerpt (with proposed new student options included)**

In order to graduate from Albion, all students must demonstrate college writing proficiency by fulfilling one of the following requirements:

1. receive a 5 on the Advanced Placement Test in English Language and Composition;
2. receive a 5 or higher on one of the International Baccalaureate higher level English tests;
3. complete English 101, College Writing, or English 101H, College Writing Honors, at Albion College with a grade of 3.0 or above;
4. transfer a writing course that counts as English 101 at Albion College with a grade of 3.0 or above;
5. pass the Writing Competence Examination (see details below).

Students are encouraged to enroll in English 101 or 101H early in their college careers in order to practice and improve college writing as a means to support their learning across the liberal arts curriculum and to fulfill the college writing proficiency requirement.

# # #

Textual Analysis Subcommittee of C&RC:

The Textual Analysis Mode Subcommittee has approved IDS: 353 "Power and Authority" to count as a textual analysis course. This course is offered through the Philadelphia Center.

The Textual Analysis Mode Subcommittee has approved RS 242 "Christian Ethics" to count as a textual analysis course.

# # #

Faculty Development Committee:

The Faculty Development Committee has approved Small Grants to:

**Vicki Baker**, Economics & Management, to support her participation in a Fulbright assignment at University College Utrecht.

**Lia Jensen-Abbott**, Music, to perform the premiere recital of Beethoven's *Diabelli Variations*, *Op. 120*, in Costa Rica as part of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Beethoven's birth.

**Carrie Walling**, Political Science, to hire student research assistants to create a toolkit for her upcoming book.

FDC awarded a Large Grant to **Lia Jensen-Abbott**, Music, to commissions two more variations, Asia and South America, for her *Diabelli Variations*, *Op. 120*.

The Faculty Development Committee approved combined Small and Large Grants to:

**Kevin Metz**, Chemistry, to support his research on understanding the influence of the carbon substrate in his platinum nanoparticle-carbon microsphere electrocatalysis work.

**Craig Streu**, Chemistry, to support his sabbatical research this summer on developing bioactive agents.

## II ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE PROVOST'S OFFICE

**Associated Colleges of the Midwest** is seeking the following positions for 2021-2022:

### **Oak Ridge Science Semester (ORSS) - Fall 2021**

The next opportunity to serve as Visiting Faculty Director for the Oak Ridge Science Semester, will be Fall 2021. This intensive research experience offers 10-15 students each fall the opportunity to study at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

- Program: ACM Oak Ridge Science Semester
- Position available: Visiting Faculty Director
- Appointment for: Fall 2021 semester

- Location: Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Oak Ridge, Tennessee
- Application deadline: March 1, 2020

The Associated Colleges of the Midwest (ACM) seeks a Visiting Faculty Director for its Fall 2021 Oak Ridge Science Semester program.

The Visiting Faculty Director leads a group of 10-15 students in an intensive research experience at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. ACM or Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) faculty from any STEM discipline are eligible to apply.

Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities - Fall 2021

- Program: Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities
- Positions available: Two Faculty Co-Directors
- Appointments for: Fall 2021 semester
- Location: Newberry Library, Chicago
- Application deadline: March 1, 2020

**ACM also seeks Faculty Co-Directors for its Fall 2021 Newberry Seminar: Research in the Humanities program.**

The ACM offers faculty members an opportunity to teach in residency at one of the world's great independent research centers, the Newberry Library in Chicago. The two instructors for the ACM Newberry Seminar in the Humanities lead a group of 15-20 students in a humanities seminar and oversee their work in substantive independent research projects. ACM or Great Lakes Colleges Association (GLCA) faculty from any humanities discipline are eligible to apply; co-instructors need not be from the same institution.

Applications must include the following:

- A detailed description of the proposed seminar topic and its links to the unique resources of the Newberry Library as well as the city of Chicago. The proposed seminar topic should provide sufficient focus to encourage productive dialogue but should also cut across different disciplines, time periods, and national boundaries to encourage a variety of research projects. Topics that have the potential for engaging students broadly with the rich Newberry collections are most desirable.
- A draft syllabus for the seminar. The syllabus should include plans for common readings and writing assignments for the seminar, which normally is taught during the first six to seven weeks of the program. While the syllabus, of course, will be provisional, awareness of how to engage students and to meet the goals of the seminar are important to the proposal.
- Detailed description of how the directors will guide and support the individual research of the students, including ideas for collaborative editing and critique, small group writing support, and other assignments that will sustain students as they embark upon a major, intensive research project. The scaffolding of the research project normally begins in the early weeks of the program, with the second half of the program focused wholly on research and writing.
- Further description, based on past teaching experiences, of how the faculty fellows plan to meet

the specific learning goals of the program.

- A curriculum vitae for each faculty member.

The letter of application and supporting materials should be sent, in electronic form, to [acm@acm.edu](mailto:acm@acm.edu).

- A letter from the chief academic officer endorsing the application, sent separately to [acm@acm.edu](mailto:acm@acm.edu).

**The application deadline is March 1, 2020.** Selection will be made by mid-April in consultation with partners from the Newberry Library and former faculty fellows.

### **Japan Study - Resident Director of Japan Study**

Full academic year at Waseda University in Tokyo

The Japan Study Resident Director spends an academic year at Waseda University in Tokyo with 30-40 students. This position is open to Japan specialists and non-specialists, and Resident Directors in past years have included tenured and tenure-track faculty from all ranks. **The application deadline is April 30** for the academic year beginning 16 months later. Information and application.

**ASIANetwork** announces that Barbara Finamore, author of Will China Save the Planet? and Senior Strategic Director for Asia at the Natural Resources Defense Council, has been offering a book talk around the country over the past year. She is not seeking an honorarium, just travel, accommodation and meals. For more information, contact her assistant Charlotte Steiner at [csteiner@nrdc.org](mailto:csteiner@nrdc.org).

**ASIANetwork** also announces its Summer Faculty Development Workshop:

#### *Infusing Modern China into the Undergraduate Curriculum*

This multidisciplinary, two-week faculty development program will offer undergraduate educators opportunities to interact with leading Chinese studies experts in an intensive program of lectures, discussions, film screenings, and cultural events. The program is designed to assist institutional teams and individual faculty members develop course curricula and strategies for Chinese studies program development. The first week of the program will include sessions on Chinese religion/philosophy, an overview of modern Chinese history, and sessions on visual art and literature/film. The second week will feature sessions on contemporary Chinese social, economic and political dynamics

The Institute is open to individual applicants, but special consideration will be given to applications from two- to three-person college or university teams. Participant will receive lodging in the EWC faculty guesthouse. Participant home institutions are asked to cover travel costs and a program fee of \$325.

Dates: July 6 - 17, 2020

Location: East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawai'i

Director: Peter Hershock

**AAC&U** announces its **2020 TIDES INSTITUTE - *Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM***, June 8 - 12, 2020, to be held at the Lansdowne Resort and Conference Center in Leesburg, Virginia.

The AAC&U TIDES Institute is designed for STEM faculty and administrators who have reached, or are nearing, a tipping point in building their capacity for integrating cultural responsiveness into their teaching strategies. The state of readiness to take on this work is critical to maximizing the Institute experience and contributing to addressing the underrepresentation of minoritized groups in STEM. Participants should come prepared to do the deep, internal work that has been repeatedly shown to be essential to achieving cultural responsiveness. Past participants who have indicated the AAC&U TIDES Institute was “transformative” for them include:

- faculty from all STEM and non-STEM disciplines;
- senior and mid-level administrators who have either mandated or been charged with implementing diversity initiatives;
- funded Principal Investigators leading campus- or department-wide projects;
- prior AAC&U and PKAL Institute participants looking to deepen and expand their professional skill sets and make greater contributions to undergraduate STEM reform.

Registration is \$3400 per person. Space is limited. Please register early.

### **III SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Abigail Cahill** (Biology) went with Chris Breen '20 to the annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology in Austin (TX), where they presented posters (including one coauthored with several other Albion students):

Cahill, A.E., Breen, C., Stander, R., Jost, S., and Hernandez, R. Seasonal differences dominate spatial ones in an inland salt marsh community.

Breen, C.J., and A.E. Cahill. Survivability and reproduction in Daphnia, copepods, and ostracods under changing salinities.

Abby gave an invited seminar at Beloit College: A salt marsh in Michigan? Characterization of invertebrates in a rare habitat type using molecular and morphological methods. She also served as a reviewer for the Graduate Research Fellowship Program through NSF.

**Nancy Demerdash** (Art & Art History) recently had two papers accepted for presentation. In late March, Nancy and her colleague Dr. Mary Anne Lewis Cusato (Associate Professor of French, Ohio Wesleyan University) will present on the outcomes of their GLCA-funded, digital humanities project, in a paper entitled "Documenting Africa: African Cultures and Digital Storytelling through Space and Time" at the Florida Digital Humanities Consortium Conference at Flagler College.

In early April, Nancy will present the paper, "The Évolué, Migration and the Politics of Hygiene and Housing in Postwar Tunisia," which stems from her larger book project, at the conference, "Decolonization, Development and State Building in North Africa," at the Center for Middle East Studies at Brown University.

**Alli Harnish** (Anthropology & Sociology) attended an NSF-sponsored workshop on Economic Network Dynamics of Wealth and Inequality at the Santa Fe Institute from February 5-7.

**Deborah Kanter** (History) presented on her forthcoming book at Cristo Rey Jesuit High School in Chicago on December 16, 2019. She celebrated its publication at the National Museum of Mexican Art on February 8. The book is available at the College bookstore.

Deborah also led a public discussion of the book Dear America: Notes from an Undocumented Citizen, as part of the county-wide Washtenaw Reads program on February 2.

In January, **Ian MacInnes** (English) presented at the American Association of Colleges & Universities (AAC&U) conference as part of the Council on Undergraduate Research's panel on "Undergraduate Research Experiences Embedded in Courses and Scaffolded into Curricula: Addressing Equity and Transforming Institutional Culture," January 2020.

**Vanessa McCaffrey** (Chemistry) and **Vicki Baker** (Economics & Management), along with Caroline Manning '20 Psychological Sciences, had the following peer-reviewed publication accepted:

McCaffrey, V. P., Baker, V. L., & Manning, C. (forthcoming). "Divisional Trends in Undergraduate Research: A Data-Driven Dialogue in the Creative Arts." PURM, Special Issue.

**Clayton Parr** (Music) is appearing as tenor soloist for Mozart's Requiem with the Billings Symphony in Montana this month.

**Krista Quesenberry** (English) presented "Hemingway's Queens, Queers, and Enquiries" on the Teaching Hemingway and Gender panel at the Modern Language Association Annual Convention, Seattle, January 10.

**David Reimann** (Mathematics & Computer Science) gave a presentation entitled "A retrospective of creating five years of cover art for Mathematics Magazine" at the Joint Mathematics Meetings

held January 14-18, 2020 in Denver, Colorado. He also had two artworks in the juried art exhibition at the conference: a 3D printed piece "Parabolas" and a digital print "Ramanujan's Butterfly"; these works appears in the Art Exhibition Catalog on pages 76 and 77 respectively. A version of "Ramanujan's Butterfly" appears on the cover of the December 2019 issue of Mathematics Magazine (Vol 92, No. 5). It is the last of 25 original artworks he made for that journal over the past five years.

**Marcy Sacks** (History) has had her paper, "To 'Learn Him to Read &c': The Paternalistic Fantasies of White Union Soldiers during the Civil War," accepted for presentation on the panel, "Soldiers as Saviors: Twentieth-Century Humanitarian Actions by Combat Forces," at the Society for Military History 2020 conference at the end of April.

Marcy has had her paper, "Receiving an Education in Race: White Northerners' Encounters with African Americans during the Civil War" accepted onto the panel, "Reckoning with Emancipation" for the upcoming Society of Civil War Historians annual conference to be held in Raleigh, NC, in early June.

Marcy has been named to the Readers' Committee for the Harriet Tubman Prize honoring a distinguished book published in 2019 in the United States on the slave trade, slavery, and anti-slavery in the Atlantic World. The prize is awarded by The Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture (Harlem).

Marcy has been included as a faculty expert on a National Endowment for the Humanities "Common Ground" summer institute proposal. The program for high school teachers will run in July 2021.

**Dawid Tatarczyk's** (Political Science) article entitled, "The Reshaping of the Quantitative-Qualitative Divide: A Case of QCA" has been published in Qualitative and Multi-Method Research. The article can be found at: <https://zenodo.org/record/3524376#.XjxRS2hKgdV>.

In November, **Meghan Webb** (Anthropology & Sociology) presented the paper, "How to be a 'Good' Wife: Performing Love and Marriage among Kaqchikel Maya Transnational Families," at the American Anthropological Association annual meeting held in Vancouver, BC. She also chaired the panel "Gender, Changing Climates, and Cultural Shifts in Latin America."

**John Woell** (Academic Affairs) presented with Meredith Goldsmith of Ursinus College and Michelle Mattson of Wittenberg College at the American Association of Colleges and Universities annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Their presentation, "Steadying the Ship, Rolling with the Changes: Leading from the Middle in Times of Administrative Change," discussed the important roles of mid-level administrators during leadership and institutional transitions. Although presciently proposed months ago, it gained new relevance in December.

**Nicolle Zellner** (Physics) was interviewed by Science magazine: <https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/01/cataclysmic-bashing-giant-planets-occurred-early-our-solar-systems-history>.

An image from Nicolle's manuscript published in the November 2019 issue of the Journal of

Geophysical Research - Planets was featured on the cover of that issue of the journal:  
(<https://agupubs.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1029/2019JE006050>).