WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Mr. Timothy Abeln, Visiting Instructor of Spanish
M.A., Bowling Green State University

Dr. Stephanie D. Allen, Visiting Assistant Professor of Biology
Ph.D., The Ohio State University

Ms. Sandra L. Alzate, Assistant Professor of Spanish
Ph.D. Candidate, M.A., University of Cincinnati

Mr. William Barber, Instructor of Speech Communication
M.A., Ohio University

Dr. Timothy Christensen, Visiting Assistant Professor of English
Ph.D., Michigan State University

Ms. Sally Goins, Instructor of Education
M.A., Ohio University

Ms. Mary Kaufmann, Assistant Professor of Informatics
MBA, Baldwin Wallace College

Mr. Ivan D. Ivanov, Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science
Ph.D. Candidate, University of Cincinnati
M.A.I.S., Diplomatic Academy in Vienna and University of Vienna, Austria

Ms. Girija Nair-Hart, Visiting Instructor of Mathematics
Ph.D. Candidate, The Ohio State University
M.S.T., Florida Atlantic University

Dr. Robert Osgood, Assoc Dean of Acad Affairs for Teacher Educ and Prof of Education
Ph.D., Claremont Graduate University

Mr. Alexander O. Poster, Visiting Instructor of History
M.A., The Ohio State University

Dr. David L. Rodland, Visiting Assistant Professor of Geology
Ph.D., Virginia Tech

Dr. Robert Sharp, Assistant Professor of Philosophy
Ph.D., Vanderbilt University

Ms. Sandra Soto-Caban, Assistant Professor of Engineering
Ph.D. Candidate, Michigan State University
M.S., University of Puerto Rico
**FACULTY IN PRINT**


“100 reasons I Want to Go to Afghanistan.” *The Battered Suitcase* 1:1, June 2008.


“The Legacy of Johnny Appleseed.” September 2008 *Relish*


**MAJOR FAIR**

As mentioned during the Fall Faculty Conference (and discussed with department chairs last spring), there will be a Major Fair on **September 30th from 11:00-12:15 in John Glenn Gym.** Each department and interdisciplinary major will have a table to display its program or programs to students visiting the Fair. First-year students, many of whom are still thinking about a major, are the largest target audience for the Major Fair. But sophomores, juniors, and even (gasp) seniors who are undecided or are considering changing majors will be attending. The Major Fair is a perfect opportunity for departments to make prospective majors aware of requirements for their major(s), special areas of emphasis and expertise in the department, and career possibilities for their majors. The Major Fair offers interdisciplinary majors an effective way to reach prospective majors who may not even be aware that their programs exist at Muskingum.

Tables for each department and interdisciplinary program will be ordered for John Glenn Gym. Departments and interdisciplinary major programs should plan to have a faculty member or two available at their tables for the duration of the Fair. You should have materials available to hand out to students. In addition to materials you have available in the department, you may also want to contact Admissions about materials they use to market your program(s). Be creative in your displays: posters, photos, specimens, "goodies" to pass out, etc.

The Major Fair is planned as an annual event in which we showcase the programs available to our new and undecided continuing students. Students deserve to know what major options are available to them and they will enjoy getting to know faculty that they may never have met before.

So begin planning how you want to market your department to current Muskies. And thank you in advance for making our first Major Fair a successful event.
ANNUAL ASSESSMENT REPORT (8/21/08)

I. Departmental Assessment (Stephen VanHorn)

Number of Departments Submitting Reports: 16 with 2 exemptions

Departments with Concerns:
Art, Chemistry, History, Geology, Religion, Philosophy, English

Departments reporting adjustments in assessment methods:
Art - Extended Junior assessment to Sophomore level
Philosophy - Changed assessment goal

Departments reporting curricular changes:
Art, Music, Geology, EAB,
History - Attempt to better address certain subject areas
Religion - Make better use of library research sessions
Psychology - Incorporate targeted review sessions in senior seminar courses

Departmental changes implemented:
Chemistry - Have seniors begin research projects earlier and more instrumentation methods throughout curriculum
Geology - Use seminar courses to address topics not covered in depth in program
Art - Address course sequencing concerns
EAB - Standardization of senior seminar materials
Music - Changes in Piano Proficiency Exam (All students passed last year)

II. Liberal Arts Essentials Assessment (Walter Huber)

REVIEW - LAST YEAR
Departments identified one or more goals each LAE course met
Departments developed a plan to assess how well the course met the goal
Assessment Committee reviewed the plans
Sections of LAE courses were chosen (somewhat randomly)

THIS YEAR
Courses have been chosen for the Fall semester
A list of the courses for the Spring will be chosen by the Registrar and reviewed by the Assessment Committee by mid-October
Members of the Assessment Committee who teach LAE courses will present a workshop in late January on writing a report for assessing LAE courses

COURSES SELECTED FOR FALL

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Assessment Committee Tasks for 2008-2009
Finalize approval for all course plans (less than 5% of total) - October 1
Develop an assessment evaluation tool for faculty approval - October 21
Review and promulgate LAE sections chosen for formal assessment - October 21
Address administration request to explore assessment of May Term courses and trips abroad
The Script for Academic Affairs

**FIRST-YEAR SEMINAR ESSAY CONTEST**

The Vice President for Academic Affairs is sponsoring an essay contest open to all first-year students currently enrolled in a FYS class. Broadly conceived, the objectives of the contest are to promote writing and critical thinking skills among first-year students and, more specifically, to encourage reflection on the liberal arts and the value of a liberal arts education.

FYS faculty play a key role in this contest by encouraging first-year students to compose essays on the topics below and by engaging students in discussions about the liberal arts and the distinctive features of a liberal arts college like Muskingum. The FYS instructors may select a maximum of three (3) essays per class to submit for this competition.

**Topics**

What is a liberal arts education?

Why I chose to attend a liberal arts college.

Why is a liberal arts education still relevant in the information age?

**Contest Prizes**

Three cash prizes will be awarded:

First prize = $100

Second prize = $75

Third prize = $50

In addition, the FYS class of the first prize recipient will receive a pizza lunch.

**APPOINTMENTS FOR 2008-2009**

College Archivist: Bil Kerrigan, Associate Professor of History

Learning Community Coordinator: Lois Zook-Gerdau, Associate Professor of Chemistry

Academic Advising Coordinator: Alistair Hattingh, Assistant Professor of History

PDC REPORT ON HANDBOOK/APAP REVISION PROCESS (8/21/08)

Paul Szalay summarized the work of PDC last year as follows:

**Process in Spring 2008**

1. Surveyed Handbook and APAP to identify sections to be considered for revision
2. Extensive consideration of two key issues in handbook:
   - Clarify role of FAC in tenure and promotion process
   - Statement of general standards for tenure (Bylaws I and VI)
3. Forwarded draft of Bylaws I and VI to FAC and President for review and comment
4. Preliminary consideration of key passage related to tenure and promotion in APAP (Section 210.4.B)

**Proposed action plan for Fall 2008**

1. Complete proposal for revision of wording in Bylaw I and/or VI after reviewing comments from FAC and President
2. Forward proposed Bylaw I and VI to faculty when revision and consultation process and is completed
3. Final version of Bylaw I and/or VI revisions to Trustees for review
4. Continue consideration of policies related to Renewable Term Faculty appointments

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4. Continue consideration of policies related to Renewable Term Faculty appointments
The Fulbright U.S. Student Program awards approximately 1,450 grants annually and currently operates in over 140 countries worldwide. Fulbright English Teaching Assistantships are now available to 32 countries. Fulbright full grants generally provide funding for round-trip travel, maintenance for one academic year, health and accident coverage and full or partial tuition.

Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of application and hold a bachelor’s degree or the equivalent by the beginning of the grant. In the creative and performing arts, four years of professional training and/or experience meets this basic eligibility requirement. (Professional applicants lacking a degree but with extensive professional study and/or experience in the field in which they wish to pursue a project may also be considered.) The Fulbright U.S. Student Program does not require applicants to be currently enrolled in a college or university. Applications from young professionals interested in an international experience are also encouraged.

For more information, interested individuals should visit the Fulbright U.S. Student Program website at www.us.fulbrightonline.org. Students currently enrolled at Muskingum College should contact Dr. Robert Burk, Fulbright Program Adviser for more information. Applications must be submitted both electronically and in hard copy to Dr. Burk by the campus closing date of October 1, 2008. For the national deadline, applications must be received at IIE electronically by October 20, 2008 and in hard copy by October 22, 2008.

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POSTSCRIPT

Text of the Vice President for Academic Affairs’ report at Fall Faculty Conference:

REVIEW OF 2007-2008
- Approved Nursing Curriculum
- Began Faculty Handbook/APAP Review and Revision Process
- Started first MISST Program Cohort
- Started Engineering Program
- Pilot Learning Communities
- Initiated Phi Kappa Phi Petition
- Implemented new calendar for faculty annual review
- Revised LAE Assessment
- ACE/Carnegie Foundation Ohio Professor of the Year, Dr. Linda Morrow
- Hired new Assoc. Dean of Academic Affairs for Teacher Education, Dr. Robert Osgood
- Hired 14 new faculty

PREVIEW OF 2008-2009
- Begin Pre-nursing curriculum
- Ohio Board of Nursing Accreditation Site Visit
- Continue Handbook/APAP Review and Revision
- Chess Center (Library and Creative Writing Space)
- Academic Support Initiatives (Supplemental Instruction and Academic Intervention Program)
- East Campus Redevelopment
  - Neptune Art Center
  - Art Annex
  - Distributed Art Exhibits
  - Johnson Hall, Little Theatre Demolitions
  - Begin Walter Hall Construction
  - Redesign Paul Hall (beyond 2008-09)
- E2 (Enhanced Experience) Course Proposal
- Learning Communities for First-Year Students

Colleagues: I look forward to continuing our work together in 2008-2009. The new academic year promises to be challenging but also rewarding.