

# Academic Affairs Report

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

DECEMBER 2009

## Nazareth COLLEGE

### A MESSAGE FROM THE VPAA

#### Important Dates for Applicants for 2010 Faculty Scholarship and Innovation Grants

- **February 15** - *Grant proposals are due in CTE office (G357)*
- **Early April** - *Notification letters will be sent*

In this issue of the Academic Affairs Report I am pleased to devote my “acreage” to recognizing the colleagues who are serving as mentors to this year’s new faculty. Faculty mentors meet regularly with their new faculty colleagues, offering guidance on issues both large and small. They try to sit in on at least one class session of the new faculty member, and invite him or her to sit in on one of their classes.

The role of faculty peers in informing and supporting colleagues is fundamental to a

college community. It is through this mentorship that we convey the mission and values of the institution, ensure the vitality of our practice in the disciplines, and promote the free exchange of ideas. New faculty have expressed appreciation for this help in making a successful transition to Nazareth College.

Therefore, and on behalf of us all, I thank the faculty listed below for their commitment and leadership in mentoring new faculty at Nazareth College.



**Sara Varhus**

Yours,  
*Sara*

### KUDOS TO NAZARETH MENTORS

Many thanks to the following Nazareth faculty for mentoring their new faculty colleagues:

**Sharon Bidwell-Cerone** (Nursing) mentors **Patricia Capellazzi** (Nursing)

**Ellen Contopidis** (Inclusive Childhood Edu.) mentors **Gail Grigg** (Inclusive Childhood Edu.)

**Craig Hill** (Adolescence Education) mentors **Brian Bailey** (Adolescence Education)

**Shanna Jamanis** (Inclusive Childhood Edu.) mentors **Molly Keogh** (Inclusive Child Edu.)

**Betsey King** (Music/Creative Arts Therapy) mentors **Laurie Keough** (Music/Arts Therapy)

**Mary Maher** (Nursing) mentors **Marie Bell** (Nursing)

**Adrielle Mitchell** (English) mentors **Nicole Juersivich** (Mathematics)

**JJ Mowder-Tinney** (Physical Therapy) mentors **Mary Therese Novak** (Physical Therapy)

**Laura Riddle** (CSD) mentors **Dawn Vogler-Elias** (CSD)

**Carl Wiens** (Music) mentors **David Sommerville** (Music)

#### Inside this issue:

David Steitz Facilitates the Ageless Learning Collaboration	2
A Report on Assessment Activity	2
Schedule of Events	3
Updates	4/5
From the Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence	6

## DAVID STEITZ FACILITATES THE AGELESS LEARNING COLLABORATION

In each of two developmental psychology classes about the later years of life, **David Steitz** (Psychology) offers students a unique kind of learning experience as part of the Ageless Learning Collaboration between the Legacy Senior Living Communities and Nazareth College that involves learning directly from older adults.

During the Fall 2009, Steitz's *Issues in Aging* course was taught at The Legacy at Clover Blossom and included both Nazareth students and Legacy residents, who were also members of the class. In the Spring, *Middle Age and Aging* will be taught at St. John's Meadows and will also include elder residents as members of the class.

Although locating these classes in a residence for senior citizens is an important part of the process, Steitz reports it is the inclusion of older

adults as members of the class that seems to contribute most to the richness of class discussions and to student learning outcomes, which include

a richer and more engaged understanding as well as greater empathy for others.

This collaboration was supported in part by a Faculty Scholarship and Innovation Grant.



*PSY 321 Developmental II: Middle Age and Aging  
Spring 2009 at the Legacy at Clover Blossom*

## A REPORT ON NEW ASSESSMENT ACTIVITY By Leanne Charlesworth

This fall, a number of Nazareth faculty and staff have engaged in professional development associated with student learning outcomes assessment.

*On the road.* In September, an interdisciplinary group of faculty including **Isabel Cordova** (History), **Joe Daboll-Lavoie** (Economics), **Shanna Jamanis** (Inclusive Childhood Education), **Kim McGann** (Sociology), **Carol Roote** (Biology), and I (Social Work), traveled to Delaware to learn about the Middle States Commission on Higher Education's perspective on assessment through participation in the Middle States Institute on Student Learning Outcomes Assessment. In October, I also visited Indianapolis to participate in the Assessment Institute's annual conference, where **Marlee Burgess** (Student Development) and **Marie Watkins** (Center for Service Learning) presented within the First Year Experience conference track on service learning and assessment within Freshman Seminar.

*At home.* In November, over 30 Nazareth faculty and staff members participated in brown bag sessions facilitated by **Mary Louise Gerek** (Research Analyst & Assessment Coordinator) and myself (Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Coordinator). Each session focused on the development and use of student learning outcomes. Feedback provided via a workshop evaluation form suggests the sessions were quite useful and included the comments "Important to keep the conversation going" and "Sharing with others helps a lot! I work alone and can only draw from my own experience! Have these workshops be ongoing."

*Coming soon.* Faculty input has shaped the nature of student learning assessment activities to be offered during the upcoming spring semester. Faculty will lead sessions addressing topics such as rubrics and their use in the assessment process; assessment measures and other sources of evidence;

and closing the assessment "loop." During the March 5<sup>th</sup> Assessment Workshop, faculty will be given time to reflect upon their existing assessment

work and on May 11 & 12, national assessment expert Dr. Barbara Walvoord will visit the campus to engage our community in conversation about assessment concerns and best practices at the course, discipline, core curriculum, and institutional levels.

Stay tuned for spring semester dates & details!

**WIDESPREAD STAFF  
AND FACULTY  
INVOLVEMENT IS  
CRITICAL TO  
CREATING AND  
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STUDENT LEARNING  
ASSESSMENT  
APPROACH.**

## Schedule of Events



For more details on events, visit the [CTE website](#).

**How to contact CTE:**  
**teachexl@naz.edu**  
**389-2381**

- December 1 - Circle of Chairs - G351
- December 4 - Undergraduate Classes End
- December 4 - Faculty Meeting
- December 5 - 11 - Semester Exams
- December 14 - NF Discussion: The Teaching Philosophy: Philosophy into Practice - G351 (All Faculty are Welcome) - POSTPONED
- January 7 - Advisement and Registration for new students
- January 8 - Faculty Assembly
- January 11 - Undergraduate Classes Begin
- January 21 - Ethics Discussion with Thom Donlin-Smith
- January 22 - Faculty Meeting
- February 5 - CAS Meeting
- February 11 - Staff Assembly
- February 12 - Council of Chairs
- February 15 - Faculty Scholarship & Innovation Grant proposals due in CTE
- February 19 - Semester Reading Day - No Undergraduate Classes
- February 23 - Ethics Discussion with Thom Donlin-Smith
- February 26 - Faculty Meeting
- March 4 - Circle of Chairs - G351
- March 5 - Spring Assessment Working Session
- March 12 - HHS Divisional Meeting
- March 25 - Ethics Discussion with Thom Donlin-Smith
- March 25 - April 9 - Advisement and Course Selection for Fall 2010
- March 26 - Faculty Meeting
- April 13 - 15 - Scholars' Day
- April 16 - Faculty Meeting
- April 20 - Circle of Chairs - G351
- April 22 - Ethics Discussion with Thom Donlin-Smith
- April 23 - Council of Chairs
- April 26 - Undergraduate Classes End
- April 27 - Distinguished Colleagues Reception
- April 28 - May 4 - Semester Exams
- May 9 - Graduate & Undergraduate Commencement @ Blue Cross Arena
- May 11 and 12 - All College Assessment Forum

## UPDATES (in the order received)



Forward  
updates to  
dmathew4  
@naz.edu

- **Monica Weis SSJ** (English) presented a paper, "Jane Franklin Mecom: The Risk of Remaining Faithful," on October 24 at the New York State College English Association (NYCEA) at Niagara Community College.
- **Timothy Kneeland** (History and Political Science) gave a paper, "Conservative Ideology and Policy Making in the Age of Reagan: Richard Nixon and the Natural Disaster Act of 1974," at the Second Annual United States Intellectual History Conference held in New York City November 11-13. He also continues to contribute political analysis to television, radio, and newspapers.
- **Rochelle Ruffer** (School of Management) traveled to the Science Education Resource Center (SERC) at Carleton College on October 11 - 13, 2009 to participate in a NSF-funded workshop to build a website portal on interactive lecture demonstrations (ILD). The website provides a place for economics teachers to learn about ILD and find specific examples of how to implement ILD into their classroom.
- **Ginny Skinner-Linnenberg** (English) presented a session at the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies conference in October. The presentation, "Imagining What We Know: Creative Expression in a Liberal Studies Graduate Course," was a discussion of the MALS core course LST 501: Being Human which she and **Susan Nowak** teach.
- **William Hopkins** (MFL) and **Maria Rosaria Vitti-Alexander** (MFL) conducted a two week seminar on writing to advanced graduate students in the Humanities at the Università D'Annunzio Pescara-Chieti, Italy (November 26 - December 10, 2009). The seminar focused on academic writing of dissertations and journal articles in the fields of literature, economics, jurisprudence, and social science. Of the many sample dissertation documents used for the seminar, some were graciously donated by faculty members from Nazareth College.
- **Betsey King** (Music) presented a five hour module on Music Therapy protocols for treating speech/language disorders at the annual convention of the American Music Therapy Association held in November in San Diego, CA. She also was interviewed by AMTA.Pro, an online symposium for music therapists, regarding her work with the Nazareth Aphasia Clinic. The half-hour podcast will be offered for continuing education to music therapists internationally.
- **John Edelman** (Philosophy) has edited a collection of philosophical essays by several American and European philosophers entitled *Sense and Reality: Essays out of Swansea*. The collection has been published by Ontos Verlag, of Frankfurt, Germany. The essays discuss the works of eight philosophers belonging to what is sometimes called 'the Swansea School', a collection of individuals sharing a distinctive reading of the work of the Austrian philosopher Ludwig Wittgenstein all of whom at one time or another taught at the University of Swansea, Wales (UK), where John earned his Ph.D.
- **Diane Enerson** (Psychology/Center for Teaching Excellence) co-facilitated a group discussion about "Cultures of Collaboration" and cross-cultural comparisons of education (with James Stigler, UCLA) at the 3rd Annual Rochester Educators Collaboration Event (6 October 2009) by the RAC Center for Excellence in Math and Science.
- **Jed Metzger** (Social Work) was Co-Principal Investigator of Open World Foundation, a \$10,000 grant that funded a cultural exchange between the City of Rochester, NY and Veilkiy Novgorod, Russia on child welfare and substance abuse. The ten day program brought four senior Russian practitioners to Rochester to exchange strategies in service delivery to youth in the child welfare and chemical dependency systems. Jed also presented the workshop "You Bet I Told" at the 5th Annual Western New York Restorative Justice Conference in Brockport, NY in October 2009 and at the New York State Social Work Education Association Annual Conference in Saratoga, NY in October.
- **Tricia Asklar** (English) celebrates more than ten publications this year including poems in *So to Speak, Plain Spoke, Slipstream, Literary Mama*, and two poems in the 120th anniversary issue of *Poet Lore* (the oldest continually published poetry magazine in the United States).
- **David Steitz** (Psychology/Gerontology) presented a workshop titled *Preparing Poster Presentations* at the State Society on Aging of New York Conference, "Caregiving For An Aging Population," Rochester, NY, October, 2009. In addition, David has an article that will be published early in 2010 in *Gerontology and Geriatrics Education*, Fostering social work gerocompetencies: Qualitative analysis of an intergenerational service-learning course, authors Fromm Faria, D., Dauenhauer, J.A., & Steitz, D.
- **Otieno Kisiara** (Sociology/Anthropology) gave a conference presentation: "The Cultural Challenges of Accessing After-School Programs for Inner City Refugee Youth." Interdisciplinary Themes Conferences, Wosk Centre for Dialogue, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, B.C., Canada. November 6-7, 2009.
- **Zbigniew Granat** (Music) presented "Willis Conover Meets Polish Jazz: Cold War Cultural Politics and the Birth of an Eastern Avant-Garde" at the Conference of the American Musicological Society in Philadelphia, PA, on November 13, 2009. He also published "Rediscovering 'Sonoristics': A Groundbreaking Theory from the Margins of Musicology" in *Music's Intellectual History*, ed. by Zdravko Blažeković and Barbara Dobbs Mackenzie (New York: Répertoire International de Littérature Musicale, 2009).

(Continued on page 5)



## UPDATES (Continued from Page 4)

- **Maria Rosaria Vitti-Alexander** (MFL) attended the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Conference in San Diego, CA on November 20 - 22. While there, she presented a paper for the American Association of Teachers of Italian (AATI), "Sibilla Aleramo in Search of Herself," and as the secretary-treasurer of the AATI, she attended the Business Meeting and presented the 2009-2010 Business Budget.
- **Marjorie Roth** (Music) attended "The Ancient Oracles Revived: Spiritualism and Women's Rights in 19th-Century Upstate New York". Conference paper presented for "An Esoteric Quest for Inner America", sponsored by The New York Open Center, August 29, 2009, Seneca Falls Women's Rights National Historical Park. She also had accepted for publication "Prophecy, Harmony, and the Alchemical Transformation of the Soul: The Key to Lasso's Chromatic Sibyls". Essay will be published in a collection of essays entitled "Music and Esotericism" (Leiden: Brill, 2009).
- **Shawgi Tell** (Education /Social & Psychological Foundations of Education) and **Rachel Bailey-Jones** (Education/ Social & Psychological Foundations of Education) presented a paper on "Sexuality in the Arab World" at the November 2009 AESA Conference (American Educational Studies Association) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Shawgi's other accomplishments include: several lengthy workshops on Arab and Muslim students to K-12 teachers in the Western New York region, responsibility for the Advanced Certificate in Critical Urban and Community Education (a new and unique graduate program created to attract individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds), presented a lecture titled "The Ideology and Agenda of the New Commissioner of Education" as part of the Fall 2009 School of Education Autumn Lecture, and a book review that was carried in the summer 2009 issue of the Journal of Negro Education.
- **J.J. Mowder-Tinney** (Physical Therapy) gave a one-day presentation, *Balance Challenges: Progressive Dynamic Treatment Strategies*, at the New York Physical Therapy Association Conference October 2009 in Saratoga Springs, NY. She also participated in a presentation, *Evolving Role of Consortia: A Shared Dialogue on Current and Future Roles*, at the Education Leadership Conference October 2009 in Philadelphia, PA.
- **Staffan Elgelid** presented about Health and Wellness at the International Conference of Education, Research and Innovation in Madrid Spain, November 16-18, 2009.
- **Renee van der Vennet** (Creative Arts Therapy) presented a paper, *Arte terapia con clientes con esquizofrenia: Creando conexión* (*Art therapy with clients with schizophrenia: Making a connection*), at the 1st Annual Conference of the Congreso Arte Terapia Chile 2009, in Santiago, Chile. At the 40th Annual American Art Therapy Association Conference in Dallas, Texas in November, she again presented the paper along with the workshop, *How to do research in art therapy: An experiential workshop*. Renee also completed a media review of the book *Whole person healthcare: The arts and health, Volume three. Arts & Health, 1(2), 247-248*.
- **Lynn Duggan** (Art) recently had two artworks, "Archetype - the Crone" and "The Botany of Desire," exhibited in the Wichita National All Media Craft Exhibition 2009.
- **Rui Cheng** (Education/Language, Literacy & Technology) presented "Power Relations between Nonative and Native Peers in Literacy Development" at ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages) 2009 Annual Convention and World Languages Expo on November 20, 2009. The theme for the conference was "Speaking up for Languages...Power of Many Voices."
- **Mary Maher** (Nursing) received an MPH, master of public health, from the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry Department of Community & Preventive Medicine this fall.
- **Sara Varhus** (Academic Affairs) Panel participant: "Honors Practice, Honors Leadership, and Higher Education Now." Annual Meeting of the National Collegiate Honors Council, 2009.
- **Shanna Jamanis** (Education/Inclusive Childhood Education) presented *The Penfield Project: Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders* at the International Association of Special Education biennial conference in Alicante, Spain last summer. In addition, she presented *The Social Construction of Autism Spectrum Disorders* at the Autism Across the Lifespan conference in New York City in November. Shanna, **Ellen Contopidis** (Education/Inclusive Childhood Education), **Gail Grigg** (Education/Inclusive Childhood Education), and **Jacquie Smith** (Education/Inclusive Childhood Education) collaborated with four Inclusive Childhood/Middle Childhood Education students to present at the NYS Council for Exceptional Children conference in Niagara Falls, NY.



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

The vignettes of Faculty Scholarship and Innovation Grants are now online. Faculty who completed the projects reported that the impact of doing so had been profound, both for themselves and for their students. Even faculty who were awarded grants primarily for scholarship frequently reported that their work on the project would ultimately positively affect not only their development as professionals but also the students they will teach.

When asked to select the Nazareth Identity Pillar that best fit their project, roughly a half chose Connection and/or Innovation while one fourth selected Challenge and/or Preparation. Several chose all four.

**Doot Bokelman** (Art) and **Cathy Sweet** (Art) chose Connection as the pillar best fitting their project, *Creating an Interdisciplinary Service Learning Program*, which involved a partnership with Ganondagan State Historic Site. In that context of collaboration, they worked to create prototype lessons for future art teachers but also edited and

formatted two children's books, and planned a winter art exhibition. The first collaborative children's book is now complete and will be on display in the Colacino Gallery this winter.

The project was jointly supported by Center for Service Learning and Center for Teaching Excellence.



**Lisa Durant-Jones** (Communication Sciences and Disorders) and **Carol Brownstein-Evans** (Social Work) collaborated on a project, *Interdisciplinary/Interprofessional Faculty Development: Transforming Education through Collaboration*, that enabled them to develop

innovative course/modules which will provide a structure for preparing students to work collaboratively and interprofessionally from a variety of content and specialty areas. They identified Innovation and Preparation as their pillars.

The set makes for interesting reading and speaks well of the innovative work being done by Nazareth faculty. A list of the grant recipients, titles, and project vignettes are located on the [CTE website](#), along with the [2010 call for proposals and guidelines](#).



**Diane M. Enerson**

Warmest Regards,

Diane