

THE NEWSLETTER

THE NEWSLETTER is the Faculty/Staff newsletter of Stetson University, DeLand, Florida 32723, and is published online at <http://www.stetson.edu/academicaffairs/newsletter.php> on the first and third Friday of each month during the academic year. All items for THE NEWSLETTER should be sent to Judy Ward, Office of Academic Affairs, Unit 8358 or jward@stetson.edu, by 4 p.m. on the Wednesday preceding publication.

FEBRUARY 20, 2009

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Friday, February 20	University Faculty Meeting, 12:00 noon, Rinker Auditorium (<u>Note change in location</u>)
Monday, February 23	Nominations due for Hand Awards
Monday, March 2	Mid-Term Grade Reports Due to Registrar via BannerWeb
Monday-Friday, March 2-6	SPRING HOLIDAYS
Monday, March 9	Classes Resume

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE UNIVERSITY FACULTY WILL MEET FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 20 at 12:00 noon in the **RINKER AUDITORIUM**. A light lunch will be served beginning at 11:45 a.m. The agenda includes a **faculty vote to approve changes to the University curriculum, to include specifically the three policies referenced in the minutes of the University Curriculum Council meeting held February 12, 2009**. The minutes are attached elsewhere in this edition of The Newsletter.

The College of Arts & Sciences will meet immediately following the University faculty meeting.

University faculty meetings for the remainder of 2008-2009 are scheduled as follow:

February 20, 2009	(Friday)	Rinker Auditorium, LBC	11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
March 27, 2009	(Friday)	Stetson Room	11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.
April 17, 2009	(Friday)	Stetson Room	11:45 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.

From: Judy Ward, University Faculty Secretary

THE FACULTY SENATE WILL MEET MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009, in the Faculty Lounge in the Carlton Union Building. Senators and invited guests meet for dinner at 6:00 p.m. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. and all faculty members are encouraged to attend. Trustee Jill Jinks, chair of the Trustee Student Life committee, accompanied by Dean of Students, Rina Tovar, will present for comment by the Senate a draft of the committee's strategic plan for Student Life, with important implications for student quality, recruitment and retention.

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 26, 2009 FACULTY SENATE MEETING are attached elsewhere to this edition of The Newsletter. The Senate has scheduled a special meeting on Monday, March 9, for an open discussion with incoming president Wendy Libby.

From: Stuart Michelson, Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer

NOMINATIONS FOR HAND AWARDS FOR DISTINGUISHED FACULTY are due to the college/school/library dean/director by **Monday, February 23**. Nomination information is available online at <http://helmet.stetson.edu/administration/academicaffairs/media/profdev.rtf>.

From: Judy Ward

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VALUES COUNCIL BOOK DISCUSSION. The University Values Council invites students, faculty, and staff to participate in a lively book discussion (90 minutes, with tasty food and drinks) on the year-long theme: Tradition and Innovation.

The book feast, to be held on March 18, 2009 at 4:30 p.m. in the Faculty Lounge of the Carlton Union Building, is on the reflective and provocative *Among Empires: American Ascendancy and Its Predecessors* by Charles S. Maier. Maier's study of the nature of imperial power throughout history offers a glimpse not only at the character of empire but also at how recent America compares to past empires. Having defined empire and laid out the precedents, Maier traces the last sixty years of American action on the world stage. Readers can judge for themselves if and when the U.S. turned imperial.

The book feast is open to all students, faculty and staff. Participants must register with Lisa Guenther at Ext. 8930 or lguenth@stetson.edu, by Wednesday March 11, 2009 and pick up a free book by the end of the day. (A limited number of free copies are available. If you have the book or purchase it, you are welcome to register for the feast as well.) By receiving a free book, participants promise to read it in advance and attend the book feast. No-shows who received a free book will be ineligible for other book feasts during this academic year.

This event qualifies for cultural credit. For additional information, contact Dr. Donald Musser at dmusser@stetson.edu.
From: Don Musser

ARTISTS & LECTURES COMMITTEE. The Artists & Lecturers Committee is accepting proposals to fund events scheduled for 2009-10. Proposals are due by e-mail **March 11, 2009. Please note that this deadline is earlier than in the past.** Next year, we hope to move to an early February deadline in order to facilitate planning and scheduling. We have also created a formal application form, which is available on our website (<http://www.stetson.edu/administration/artistslecturers/>). Please fill out the form in full and e-mail it to Emily Mieras, Chair of the Committee, at emieras@stetson.edu.
From: Emily Mieras

HONORS CONVOCATION is scheduled for Friday, **April 24, 2009**, at 12:00 noon in the H. Douglas Lee Chapel in Elizabeth Hall. If you have an award for outstanding achievement that your department or organization desires to present on this occasion, please notify the Office of Academic Affairs, Unit 8358, by 12:00 noon, Monday, April 6, following the procedures posted online at <http://www.stetson.edu/administration/academicaffairs/media/HonorsConvocation.doc>.
From: Judy Ward

ANNUAL ANN MORRIS ESSAY AND CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST. Faculty members, please announce to your current and former students (and encourage those with eligible entries to submit them): Stetson University's Women and Gender Studies Program proudly announces the Annual Ann Morris Essay and Creative Writing Contest, with up to \$500 to be awarded for winning entries in fiction, poetry, drama, essays, research, and creative non-fiction writing. The deadline is noon on Wednesday, March 18th. Please submit entries to Dr. Diane Everett, 221 Davis Hall. The contest winners will be announced at the annual Women and Gender Studies Reception on April 8th and at the Academic Honors Convocation on April 24th.

Contest Rules:

- Entries must in some way address the issues of gender, race, ethnicity, social class, and/or sexuality;
- Entrants must be currently registered undergraduate or graduate students;
- All entries must be typed, titled, and sealed in an envelope, with the contest name indicated on the front of the envelope;
- All entries should include a removable page with the author's name, campus unit number, telephone number, email address, and Stetson University identification number;
- The Stetson University identification number should appear on each page of each entry, but no other identifying information should appear on the entry;
- An entry may be solely or jointly authored;
- An author may submit up to three entries (jointly-authored entries count as one); and
- An author should submit three complete copies of each entry.

For more information, contact Dr. Diane Everett at ddeveret@stetson.edu.
From: Diane Everett

JAMES SIENA, VISUAL ARTIST, WILL LECTURE Monday, February 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Rinker Auditorium. James Siena is an internationally recognized artist and the recipient of multiple honors and awards. He received an Award in Art from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, New York (2000) and his work has been the subject of numerous solo exhibitions at galleries including Pierogi 2000 in Brooklyn, Daniel Weinberg in Los Angeles, PaceWildenstein in New York, and over 55 group exhibitions throughout the world, including the 2004 Whitney Museum of American Art Biennial. To learn more about James Siena, visit the Atlantic Center for the Arts website (2009 residency schedule) at: http://www.atlanticcenterforthearts.org/artresprog/resschedule/feb/j_siena.html. This lecture, courtesy of the Atlantic Center for the Arts, is free and open to the public.

STETSON'S ART EXHIBITION ACHTUNG-ATTENTION-CUIDADO CONTINUES. The joint Art Faculty Exhibition between Stetson and Freiburg Art Faculty runs until February 26. Regular gallery hours are 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Monday - Friday; and 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. on Sundays. A reception for this exhibition will be held on Wednesday, February 25, from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Duncan Gallery of Art/Sampson Hall Foyer.
From: Chris Nelson

LIVE IN ELIZABETH HALL. Please join us to hear our featured faculty, student ensemble groups, and special guests. All concerts are held in the H. Douglas Lee Chapel at 7:30 p.m. and are free to the Stetson community **unless otherwise noted.**

Stetson Opera Theater *The Bartered Bride* by Bedrich Smetana – Russell Franks, director.

Tickets: \$10.00 general, \$8.00 senior citizen, \$5.00 area students.

All three Performances will be held at DeLand High School Auditorium.

February 20: Opera Performance held at 7:30 p.m.

February 21: Opera Performance held at 7:30 p.m.

February 22: Opera Performance held at **3:00 p.m.**

February 24: Guest Recital – Amadeus Guitar Duo, Artists and Lecturers Series.

February 25: Jazz Ensemble – George West, conductor held in the **Stetson Room.**

March 10: Guest Recital – Dana Robinson, organ

From: Kathleen Loftus

SURE COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN. Faculty, please encourage your students to apply for a Stetson Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE) Grant!. The SURE Grant provides funding and travel monies for students who wish to initiate a research or creative project in any academic field during the summer of 2009. The project need not be completed at summer's end, nor must the student be on campus. To be eligible, a student must not graduate before December 2009. A proposal of the project to be undertaken, plus transcripts and letters of recommendation are **due Monday March 9.** Please contact Kimberly Reiter or go to <http://www.stetson.edu/other/research/sure.php> for more information.

SURCAS COMPETITION IS NOW OPEN. If you have students who are ready to present original research or creativity, please have them apply to present at the **11th Annual Stetson Undergraduate Research and Creative Arts Symposium (SURCAS)**, to be held **Wednesday, April 8.** Presenters are divided into all-day mixed sessions of about 12 papers each. Sessions are free of charge and all are invited to attend, including friends and parents. Please encourage your students to present! We try to work around their class schedules, but we ask that you be flexible if a student needs time off to give a paper. If you have not already done so, please consider giving all your students the time to attend SURCAS on April 8, as audiences are as important as the papers. Applications for the Stetson University Undergraduate Research and Creative Arts Symposium for 2009 are **due Monday, March 9, 2009.** Please contact Kimberly Reiter or go to <http://www.stetson.edu/other/research/surcas.php> for more information.

From: Kimberly Reiter, Undergraduate Research Committee

FACULTY AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

The following information has been received from the college/schools/departments:

Dr. Tom Farrell, Professor of English, has just had published "Hybrid Discourse in the *General Prologue* Portraits" in *Studies in the Age of Chaucer*, the flagship annual of Middle English literary studies, Volume 30 (2008): 39-93.

From: Tom Farrell

Dr. Benhua Yang, Assistant Professor of Economics, has completed the following articles/reviews for publication and presentation at conferences.

Refereed Journal Publications

- "The Differential Growth Effect of FDI across U.S. Regions," *International Economic Journal*, (with B. T. Ewing) forthcoming. (accepted for publication February 3, 2009)

Conference Presentations

- ❖ "Globalization and Growth Volatility," invited to present at the Academy of Economics and Finance 36th Annual Meeting, Pensacola Beach, Florida, February 12, 2009.
- ❖ Invited to discuss a paper entitled "Energy Consumption and Economic Growth: Evidence from the Commonwealth of Independent States" by Nicholas Apergis and James E. Payne at Academy of Economics and Finance 36th Annual Meeting (2009).

Journal Reviewer/Referee Experience

- Reviewed in November 2008 a manuscript entitled "What are the Links between Aid Volatility and Growth?" for publication in *Journal of Developing Areas*.
- Reviewed in December 2008 a manuscript entitled "Perceived Financial Risk and Its Impact on the Economic Growth of Sub-Saharan African Countries" for publication in *The Review of Black Political Economy*.
- Reviewed in January 2009 a manuscript entitled "When do more oil revenues hurt economic growth in oil exporting countries?" for publication in the *Journal of Resources Policy*.
- Reviewed in January 2009 a manuscript entitled "Colonial Dependency, Core-Periphery and Capitalism: A Game Theory Approach to Development with Application to the Guyana Economy" for publication in *Journal of Developing Areas*.

Book Reviewer

- Reviewed in 2008 a book manuscript entitled "Coalition Dharma: Gridlock, Credibility, and National Economic Performance" by Irfan Nooruddin, assistant professor in the department of political science at Ohio State University, for publication at University of Chicago Press.
- Reviewed for *Journal of Economic Issues* in 2009 a book entitled *China's Rise: Challenges and Opportunities* by Bergsten, C.F., Charles Freeman, Nicholas R. Lardy and Derek J. Mitchell, Washington, DC: Peterson Institute for International Economics, 2008.

From: Ranjini Thaver

Dr. Joshua Rust, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, has completed a book on UC Berkeley philosopher John Searle, which is due to be published by Continuum Press within the year. The book is entitled *John Searle*, and will be a part of Continuum's Contemporary American Thinkers series. Rust has also co-authored a paper due to be published in a special issue of the *European Journal of Philosophy* on empirical philosophy. In an attempt to establish whether or not ethicists are more ethical than those who do not have formal training in ethics, Rust and Eric Schwitzgebel (UC Riverside) have looked at the relative voting rates of ethicists as compared to non-ethicists philosophers, political scientists, and a group of other professors. They found that while political scientists were about 10% more likely to vote than the comparison group, ethicists were no more likely to vote than other philosophers. Finally, in April, Rust will present a paper at the American Philosophical Association which discusses cases wherein an interlocutor can reject a why question in a way that is nevertheless informative as to its topic.

From: Joshua Rust

Dr. Paul Croce, Professor and Chair of American Studies, gave a presentation: *The Cultural Work of Darwinism: Scientific Authority, Public Reckonings, and Missed Opportunities* at the Florida Center for Science and Religion Sixth Annual Conference: Religion and Science in an Age of Doubt: *The Battle for Jane and John Q. Public* (Florida Southern College, February 6, 2009).

From: Paul Croce

Dr. Ana Eire, Professor of Modern Languages and Literatures, presented a paper entitled “Sin nostalgia: la poesía española se enfrenta al futuro” at the “Colloquium on Poetry and Poetics,” on February 14 in Nashville, TN.

From: Ana Eire

Mr. Andy Dehnart, Lecturer in English and Communication Studies, attended the Television Critics Association's winter press tour in Los Angeles in January.

On February 3, at the RealScreen Summit in Washington, DC, a gathering of nonfiction film and TV producers, Dehnart moderated a Q&A session with network executives, and later interviewed *Survivorman* star Les Stroud during the conference's fireside chat session.

Last fall, Dehnart traveled to Tocantins, Brazil, to cover the start of the 18th season of CBS' *Survivor*. His writing and reporting from that has recently appeared in *Metro*, a New York, Boston, and Philadelphia newspaper; in *RealScreen* magazine, where he is a columnist; on *msnbc.com*; and on his site *reality blurred*.

From: Andy Dehnart

**Minutes of the University Curriculum Council
12 February 2009 DeLand Hall Board Room 8:30-9:30 am**

Attending: Jane Bradford, Jean West, Noel Painter, Jim Scheiner, Fred Augustine, Phil Lucas, Ramee Indralingham, Grady Ballenger (convening)

University policy recommendations and reports from the College of A&S's Faculty Implementation Group (FIG) were discussed.

The University Curriculum Council recommends these policies be forwarded to the University Faculty for approval:

- 1. At least 50% of credits for Stetson's traditional bachelor's degrees must be completed through Stetson courses.**
- 2. Upper-division requirements are detailed at the College/School level.**
- 3. Policies addressing the eligibility of transfer credits to meet General Education requirements after students have enrolled at Stetson appear in the College/School sections of the Bulletin.**

Discussion

1. UCC agreed that this policy strengthens our requirement for undergraduate degrees. The word "traditional" was included to allow for a positive statement about our core program (the residential undergraduate program), while allowing for non-traditional programs like the 'non-traditional' degree-completion program, Passport. Currently, the University requires "45 hours" and at least "26 hours" at the 300-400 level through courses at Stetson [Bulletin 33: item 1]. For entering students, the new standard will mean that at least 64 [of 128] credits must be completed at Stetson.
2. Currently, the University requires "40 hours" at "junior-senior rank (courses numbered 300 or 400)" [Bulletin 33: item 1]. The unit curriculum approved by the College has no upper-division requirements beyond satisfaction of General Education (notably the Junior Seminar) and Major/Minor requirements (including the advanced courses leading to the Senior Project).
3. UCC joined FIG in vigorous debate about the original wording. Consensus was reached that SOBA and SOM students in particular may need access to non-Stetson courses in order to complete their degrees in a timely and cost-effective way. UCC agreed that the College could have a more stringent requirement for General Education. FIG will recommend that the College make a strong statement about our distinctive approach to General Education and about the importance of our program of General Education to Major study and our undergraduate degrees

UCC also discussed the two reports from FIG:

4. Report on Limiting Transfer Credit for Majors/Minors.

UCC received a report on the vigorous discussion in FIG about the impact of transferred credits on the integrity of Stetson's Major/Minor programs. FIG will bring to the College Faculty a proposal to limit transfer courses to meet A&S Major and Minor Requirements. Currently under discussion is a maximum of 3 courses to meet requirements for an A&S major and maximum of 2 for an A&S minor. Note also that Business currently allows only "6 transfer hours in the major" [Bulletin 33: item 3], but that policy is being reviewed.

5. Report on Limiting Transfer Credits from "Community Colleges" for students at Junior/Senior Rank

UCC joined the energetic debate in FIG over the University's current policy on transfer credits from "community colleges." UCC accepted FIG's position that the Bulletin keep the current statement prohibiting students with 60 credits in Stetson's degree program from earning additional credits from a "primarily lower-division, two-year community, or junior college" [Bulletin 33: item 4]. UCC asked that Deborah Thompson be consulted about the impact of this policy on "community college" transfers and that the Registrar be asked about issues in enforcing this policy.

Finally, UCC discussed the importance of dropping the word "hours" from our curricular vocabulary. We must use both "units" and "credits" in the transitional period, but will clarify that a unit is equated to 4 credits. As all degree programs are re-calibrated to the unit system, we will need to revise policies that are based on the current 120 credits. Thus, the policy on upper-division students transferring in 'community college' credit would set the standard at 64 credits, or half of 128, rather than 60.

UCC urged attention to the implication of these policies for dual majors, majors/minors

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Faculty Senate Meeting, January 26, 2009

Regular meeting, Chair Michael Branton Presiding

Attending: Stuart Michelson (Senate Secretary) (Business), Michael Branton (Senate Chair) (University At-large), Jesus Alfonzo (Music), Kristie Born (Lecturers), Jane Christeson (Music), Diane Everett (A&S At-Large), Kimberly Flinthamilton (A&S), Jennifer Foo (Business), Ramee Indralingam (A&S At-large), Sims Kline (Library), Lloyd Linney (Music), Megan O'Neill (University At-large), Mitchell Reddish (University At-Large), Mollie Rich (Emeritus), Robert Sitler (A&S At-Large), John York (A&S)

1. Meeting called to order at 6:45 pm by Chair Branton.
 2. Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 1, 2009 Faculty Senate meeting by O'Neill/Everett (motion/second). Approved unanimously.
 3. The Faculty Senate solicited nominations for the University Grievance Council Committee (one position) and the Tenure, Grievance, and Academic Freedom Committee (two positions) from Senators. Michelson will check with those nominated and return to the next meeting with a ballot for the two committees.
 4. McNery nomination/publicity committee. Michelson will work with Carolyn Nicholson on this.
 5. Trustee Finance Committee Report. Over the last week, the Trustees raised \$2.5 million to help students that have severe financial aid problems and were at-risk of not returning to Stetson this semester. O'Neill /Foo (motion/second) moved that the Faculty Senate enthusiastically express support and gratitude to the Trustees for investing in the future of Stetson by providing financial support to our students in their time of need. Passed unanimously. (Branton/Michelson to draft a letter to the Trustees)
- John Tichenor presented on enrollment and retention. The highest 1st/2nd year retention over the past 25 years has been 83%. The 6-year graduation rates have varied from 60%-75%, while the retention rate varied from 75%-80%. John presented slides that showed 1st-2nd year retention and graduation rates at six other Florida and peer schools. Stetson is below the others in retention (including UCF and UF), but above UCF and closer to UF in graduation rates. 46% of those students that didn't return between Fall 2006 and Fall 2007 moved to Community College. The number not returning between 2006-2007 and 2007-2008 went from 106 to 128 students. The number not returning that went to another private university went from 5% to 12%. Retention for this year between Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 is about the same as previous years (92%-93%). Fall enrollment: number of applicants and number of admits are higher. The number of deposits are slightly higher than past years. The admission numbers for next Fall 2008 as compared to Fall 2009: inquiries are -up 346, applications are up 434, acceptances are up 106, withdrawals are up 20, denials are down 20, deposits are up 13 from last year. The Senate applauded John for his presentation.
6. Trustee Finance Committee Meeting (continued). Kent Chabotar advised the University on possible areas to cut if severe cutbacks were necessary. Possible cutbacks were discussed at the Trustee's meeting.
 7. John Pearson, Rina Tovar, and Dianne Everett are working with Jill Jinks and Nestor de Armas on a new committee on Student Recruitment, Student Retention, and Student Experience. Jill Jinks will attend the February Senate meeting to discuss this new committee.

Old Business:

8. No old business.

New Business

9. There will be a Special Senate meeting on Monday March 9, 2009 to meet with our incoming President Wendy Libby for an open discussion.

Motion for adjournment by Sitler/O'Neill (motion/second). Meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm

Respectfully submitted by Stuart Michelson, Senate Secretary