

THE BUZZ: Academic Affairs Weekly Newsletter



From the Provost

Faculty Contracts: Continuing full-time faculty contracts for the 2022-23 academic year will be issued on **March 30, 2022**. Similar to last year, contracts will be delivered and accepted electronically. You can expect to see your contract delivered via email from “CSB/SJU Faculty Contracts” on Wednesday. That email will contain more detailed instructions regarding the process.

Commencement 2022: At this time we still have a true need for additional volunteers to work the SJU Commencement on Sunday, May 8. If you available please complete this Forms Manager submission by March 25: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/VZB7D0IR1Q>. Faculty are invited to attend *both* the CSB and SJU commencements. You are welcome to attend in two ways: in the academic procession or as a commencement volunteer. Watch your email for additional information regarding the CSB and SJU processions.

From The Deans

Advising Integrations help: With the recent changes to the Integrations curriculum requirements, Emily Paup, co-chair of GECC has made a terrific and short [video](#) to support your advising sessions with students currently enrolled under the Integrations curriculum. These are primarily students that entered CSB/SJU in Fall 2020-Spring 2022. This video walks students through the requirements and lays out a hypothetical 4-year plan. The video can also be found on the [Integrations website](#) on the [Academic Advising webpage](#) along with numerous additional resources.

Remote attendance requests and Q&A session Thursday, March 24 2:30pm-3:30pm (*see 3/14 email sent from Academic Affairs*) Q&A zoom session hosted by Jason Kelly, Tom Sagerhorn, and Barb May to discuss remote attendance requests, the remote attendance policy, and answer any additional questions. Zoom link: <https://csbsju.zoom.us/j/91517824351?from=addon>

Booster Hold: As you begin to meet with your advisees, I want you to be aware of a new hold you may see with some of your students. As you are likely aware, we are requiring the COVID booster by our community when they are eligible. This requirement is an effort to keep our community as safe as possible. Therefore, every student must either get the booster or fill out an exemption form. To hold our students accountable for this requirement, if a student has not gotten the COVID booster, has not notified us that they have received the booster, or filled out an exemption form, a hold will be placed on registration for the fall. To increase compliance with this requirement, if you see a H2 COVID Compliance Hold, please remind your advisee that they must get the booster or complete the exemption form in order to register. This can be completed at our COVID webpage: <https://www.csbsju.edu/covid-19>.

Calls for Nominations - Faculty Awards

2021-2022 Outstanding Academic Advisor of the Year Award: nominations due 4:30 p.m. on Friday, April 8 – for full details see the email sent from Academic Affairs on 3/15

Submit a nomination here: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/8DW102OKJX>

New Hires in Academic Affairs

A belated welcome to Catherine Rupp - Department Coordinator for the department of English, the Koch Chair, the University Chair in Critical Thinking, the Jay Philips Center, and the Literary Arts Institute. Catherine began her position in January.

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment is pleased to welcome John Meyerhofer as its new Assistant Director. Prior to joining OIRA, John served as the Director of Information Systems for the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, and before that he worked for the DeWitt Wallace Library at Macalester College. John is a 1996 graduate of Saint John's University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics. He has also earned a Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee.

Honors Scholars

Call for Course Proposals for Honors Scholars for Community and Collaborative Leadership

Deadline: Monday April 4, 2022 Notification: Friday April 14, 2022

May Workshop for all Honors Scholars instructors: Wednesday May 18, 2022

We are accepting applications for all [five courses in the Honors Scholars curriculum](#). If your course is adopted, you automatically become an "Honors Faculty Fellow" and participate in the on-going shaping of the program. It is a three-year commitment during which each fellow will teach their Honors Scholars course at least twice, evaluate prospective students' applications to the Honors Scholars program at least once, participate in program assessment, attend at least one Honors co-curricular event per semester, and participate in a yearly May workshop. It is a significant service commitment; the Honors Director will write a letter for the tenure and promotion files of Honors Fellows to recognize their service.

Before preparing your proposal, please consult the description of the [Honors Scholars Program](#) and [curriculum](#) on our website. Note: All Honors Scholars courses fulfill Integrations Curriculum requirements. (You do not need to propose your course to the GECC at this time; adopted courses will be required to do so before there are scheduled.) Please contact Beth Wengler, ewengler@csbsju.edu, Honors Scholars Director, or Emily Esch, eesch@csbsju.edu, Honors Scholars Associate Director with questions. Please submit course proposals here: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/92SANU9OIX>

Libraries

Book Shots Podcast: In the [latest edition of Book Shots](#), Kelly Groth interviews CSB/SJU Library Director Kathy Parker about *Hamnet: A Novel of the Plague* by Maggie O'Farrell.

New on Book Shots: Join Kelly growth as she interviews Barb May, Academic Dean at the College of Saint benedict/Saint John's University speaking about two of her favorite books, "The Tortilla Curtain" by T.C. Boyle and "The Grapes of Wrath" by John Steinbeck.

<https://soundcloud.com/sarah-gewirtz-174402520/book-shots-series-with-barb-may?in=sarah-gewirtz-174402520/sets/book-shot-series>

Faculty Governance

Joint Faculty Assembly (JFA) meeting: Thursday, April 7 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Joint Faculty Assembly (JFS) meeting: Tuesday, April 12 4:30-6:00 p.m.

For more information regarding these meeting watch for emails

from jfachairandvicechair@csbsju.edu

Faculty/Staff Development Opportunities

"Benedictine Perspectives on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Justice" April 4 and 5

Mark your calendars for **Monday, April 4 and Tuesday, April 5** to attend, or have your students attend, one or more presentations regarding Benedictine Perspectives on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice (DEIJ). All presentations will focus on helping "non-experts" understand what it can look like to approach DEIJ issues from a Benedictine point of view. Guest speakers include Nicholas Tangen, Cindy Gonzalez, and Eric LeCompte. **See attached flyer for additional information.**

Mastery Grading Series: The mastery grading series continues this semester with two more workshops for faculty interested in being early adopters. We are offering a plethora of opportunities to take part to hopefully accommodate any schedule. The first round is scheduled at the tail end of advising. The second round is scheduled for the last week of the semester. Both workshops are being offered in both weeks on both campuses.

Mastery Testing - Come learn about mastery testing and have some time to convert an existing assessment into a mastery testing assessment. Workshops offered in the weeks of April 4 and April 25

- PE 212 4pm at SJU on April 4
- Ardolf 127 9:30am at CSB on April 6
- Ardolf 121 4pm at CSB on April 26
- Quad 365 at 9:30am at SJU on April 28

Rubric to Specs - Come learn about specifications grading and have some time to convert an existing rubric into a specs grading rubric. – Workshops offered in the weeks of April 4 and April 25

- Ardolf 121 4pm at CSB on April 5
- Quad 365 9:30am at SJU on April 7
- Quad 447 4pm at SJU on April 25
- Ardolf 127 9:30am at CSB on April 27

Once again, these workshops are aimed at people interested in becoming early adopters of mastery grading. The primary programming is scheduled for Fall 2022. Questions? Contact Anne Sinko or Robert Campbell

Transfer Advocate Training – April 28 3:00-5:00 p.m. (see 3/14 email sent from Academic Affairs) This training will be recorded for those unable to attend. Contact Terri Rodriguez with questions.

Becoming Community

Safe Space Training: Becoming Community is offering Safe Space Training for faculty and staff. It's an introductory level training to prepare attendees to be more effective allies to members of the LGBTQIAA+ community. This training will consist of 1-2 hours of readings and videos to be completed prior to the 2-hour training. This training counts towards the Becoming Community Practitioner and Advanced Practitioner Certificate. It will be facilitated by Jean Keller (chair of Gender Studies), Sheila Nelson (retired faculty from Sociology Department), Janelle Hinchley (faculty from Gender Studies), and Sarah Gewirtz (Social Sciences Librarian). You can sign up for training for either **March 23rd at Gorecki**

204C (CSB) or March 31st at Quad 264 (SJU). Zoom option is also available. Here is the link to sign up: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/5K22TQZRJO>. Please contact Sarah Gewirtz (sgewirtz@csbsju.edu) if you have any questions.

Virtual Becoming Community panel discussion on "Racist and Racialized Language in the Classroom" (4/11 – note correction to date from previous The Buzz)): Please join a virtual Becoming Community panel discussion on "Racist and Racialized Language in the Classroom" on Monday, April 4th at 3:30-5:00pm on Zoom. Sign up via here: [More Information](#)

Research and Grants Office

May and June Working/Writing Retreats: Jump-start your summer project at a May or June Working/Writing Retreat! Give yourself 3 days of unstructured work time and enjoy shared meals with colleagues. Stay overnight or just come for the day.

- Wed. May 18 – Fr. May 20 @ Green Lake Lutheran Ministries, Spicer, MN (Overnight or day)
- Mon. June 6 – Wed. Jun 8 @ Abbey Guesthouse, SJU (Overnight or day)
- Tue. June 28 – Thu. June 30 @ the Learning Commons, SJU (Day only)

Learn more & register here: <https://www.csbsju.edu/research-and-grants-office/supporting-research/writing-retreats>. Faculty and administrative staff welcome.

Saint John's University Benedictine Institute

Time to register for the Benedictine Pedagogy Conference 2022! After cancelling last year's Benedictine Pedagogy Conference (BPC) due to the pandemic, we are excited that the 2022 BPC will be held along with the Association of Benedictine Colleges and Universities (ABCU) conference on **June 15-17, 2022**, with departure the morning of June 18. The University of Mary, Bismarck, N.D. has graciously agreed to host this year's event. **Please share this information with faculty, student life personnel, administration, and staff at your institution who will benefit from this immersion in the Benedictine charism and be enriched by conversation and camaraderie with colleagues from our member institutions.**

The BPC provides a venue for participants to share ideas and practices they have used to successfully integrate the Ten Hallmarks developed by ABCU in the classroom, student life, and collegiate environment. The BPC will be held simultaneously with the ABCU Leadership Formation Institute. Participants will be invited to joint sessions with keynote and guest speakers, as well as liturgical and social events over the three days of the conference. **The cost for attendance which includes room, meals, and materials is \$300 per person.**

Conference information and registration can be found at the following URL:

<https://www.umary.edu/about/events/benedictine-pedagogy-conference>

Please contact Jeannine Saabye (jlsaabye@umary.edu or 701.355.8184) with any questions.

Message from CSB Events

We are excited to be back hosting events, having our spaces filled with guests and welcoming everyone back to in-person gatherings. With restrictions in place at the beginning of the semester, many events were rescheduled between now and the end of the semester.

We are doing our best to accommodate the increased level of business in the condensed timeframe but are asking for your help. Like many departments on campus, we continue to work short-staffed and need your partnership to be the most successful.

We are asking for your help in the following ways:

- **Planning**-Please evaluate your needs between now and the end of the semester and schedule as soon as possible, no less than 9 days prior to the event. This will allow us to schedule our staff appropriately in advance.
- **Flexibility**-We may need to use disposable dishware, drop items off at an earlier time, modify menus, or ask you to host your event on a different date. If we are doing this, please know it is in the best interest for the success of your event and the number of events we are trying to service.
- **Understanding**-There may be times when we will not be able to accommodate your space reservations and/or catering needs on your preferred date. We will do our best to work with you on finding an alternative date. Making these decisions is difficult for us and we understand the impact to you as well. However, we appreciate your understanding and support when making these decisions.

Please feel free to pass on this communication to others you know may be planning events this spring. If you have questions contact Jessica Reiter at JREITER@CSBSJU.EDU

The Buzz on Campus

Spring 2022 Norm Ford Science Literacy Lecture - Thursday, March 31, 7:30pm, Pellegrine

Auditorium presented by Alex Hutchinson. Alex Hutchinson is currently a science journalist who focuses on health, fitness, and endurance. Previously, he earned a PhD in physics and was a long distance runner on the Canadian national team. He recently authored the New York Times Bestseller on the same topic as this lecture - *Endure: Mind, Body, and the Curiously Elastic Limits of Human Performance*. This spring's lecture will not be livestreamed, but we plan to make the video available for the CSB/SJU community by log-in only.

"Fascism: Past and Present" - spring 2022 Tegeuder-Berg Society event : Thursday, March 31 (7:00-8:30

PM) zoom Is fascism a unique phenomenon contained in the European past, or can it reemerge at another time and place? Is the concept of fascism useful for understanding current developments, or has it become merely a term of abuse for one's opponents? Please join CSB/SJU History Professor Gregory Schroeder and CSB students Haley Joos '24 and Grace Nulty '23 for a discussion of historical fascism (1914-1945), its relevance to today's world, and the emergence of a new generation of the phenomenon: digital fascism.

[Click here to learn more and register!](#)

POET & AUTHOR CAROLYN FORCHÉ, Public Reading and Conversation - Tuesday, April 5, 7:00pm, Upper Gorecki, CSB. Join us in welcoming Carolyn Forché, a poet of witness and award-winning author. Forché is the author of five poetry books. She is a Pulitzer Prize finalist, winner of the American Book Award, and a National Book Award finalist. Forché will also give a craft talk to discuss her writing process and take questions from the audience on Thursday, April 7 at 2:30, Quad264, SJU. There is a Zoom option for the craft talk. Masks will be required* [More Information](#)

The Koch luncheon discussion will take place on Wednesday, April 6th, from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.

While Christopher Southgate is at St. John's, Chris had generously agreed to meet faculty and staff and discuss with us the perennial question: How do we understand divine presence in the context of extreme suffering? We will read a chapter written by Chris entitled "God's Involvement in Events that Cause Great Suffering." **The Koch luncheon discussion** in the Gorecki President's Room. Space is limited, so Jennifer Beste encourages you to RSVP promptly. If you would like to attend this luncheon, [please sign up here](#) and additional information will follow.

Grand Illumination lecture: “O Rocks, Tell Us in Plain Words” at 4 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, in Quad 264 at SJU. Scott Richardson will explore how people in real life and literature so often don't say what they mean. In fact, they often speak in ways that obscure, twist, and even contradict the things they say. Join us for Scott Richardson's final lecture before retirement.

<https://www.csbsju.edu/news/scott-richardson-lecture>

National Wildlife Federation EcoCareers Conference: April 6-7, 2022: CSB/SJU environmental studies is a sponsor of the National Wildlife Federation’s annual EcoCareers Conference, held entirely online on April 6 and 7, 2022. ALL CSB/SJU students, faculty, and staff are eligible for FREE conference registration (select "campus sponsors" under Ticket Types and select CSB/SJU from the list of sponsors). Learn More and Register: nwfecoleaders.org/conference

CAROLYN FORCHÉ, Craft Talk by Poet of Witness – Thursday, April 7 2:30 p.m. Quad 264, SJU

Join the Literary Arts Institute for a craft talk by award-winning poet and author Carolyn Forché.

Forché is the author of five poetry books. She is a Pulitzer Prize finalist, winner of the American Book Award, and a National Book Award finalist. Forché will discuss her writing process followed by a Q&A.

Zoom option available. Masks required* [More Information](#)

Glory and Longing in a Suffering World: April 7, 2022 (7:45 pm, Quad 264)

Christopher Southgate explores the mystery of God through the language of divine glory, examining its origin in the Hebrew Bible and using natural theology, poetry, and mysticism to explore God's glory even in troubling times and places.

Since 1993, Southgate has taught science and religion at the University of Exeter, UK. He is best known for his study of suffering and more recently his work in the natural theology of glory and the practical theology of trauma. He is also a published poet.

Do you have information for The Buzz? If you have information you would like included in The Buzz please submit to this link: [The BUZZ information](#)