

THE BUZZ: Academic Affairs Weekly Newsletter



From the Provost

Academic Affairs Awards Ceremony May 2, 3 p.m. Gorecki 204

You are invited to attend the Academic Affairs Awards reception and program on May 2, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Gorecki 204 at CSB (3:00 p.m. reception; 3:30 p.m. ceremony).

Please RSVP by April 18, 2022 here: [Academic Affairs Awards Ceremony RSVP 2022](#)

Commencement 2022: We still have a need for additional volunteers to work the SJU Commencement on Sunday, May 8. If you available please complete this Forms Manager submission: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/VZB7D0IR1Q>. Faculty are invited to attend *both* the CSB and SJU commencements. They are welcome to attend in two ways: in the academic procession or as a commencement volunteer.

Academic Program Prioritization

Updated Timeline: As we near the end of the semester, the Data and Steering Committee write to provide a brief update on our academic program prioritization process. Currently, the Data Committee is nearing completion of the analysis of each criterion. The complete analyses is anticipated to be provided to the Steering Committee by the end of next week (April 8th). Because of the Data Committee's concerted effort to approach the data carefully and thoughtfully, this has taken more time than the anticipated timeline. As a result, the Steering Committee intends to submit its recommendations in a final report to the Provost by June 30th. The report will also be distributed to faculty and staff at this time. While this extends the timeline, we are hopeful this will give the Steering Committee enough time to carefully review the data and construct their recommendations.

From The Deans

Changes in the Registrar's Office: (see full email from Academic Affairs on 4/1)

Julie Gruska, the Registrar, will be retiring at the end of this academic year. As a result of Julie's retirement, Tory Oelfke, Assistant Registrar, will move into Julie's role this next academic year. In addition, Mary Beth Thompson, our Hive expert, is moving into the Assistant Registrar position. She has begun this work already and we are very happy to see her move into this important role.

Update on The Hive: We are pleased to announce that Cathy Robak, Information Technology Specialist, will take over part of Mary Beth's role in the technical management of The Hive. She will oversee the system and settings and will also work with campus constituents to provide training, answer questions, troubleshoot, and provide support. We are also in the process of identifying a position to support outreach and case management within The Hive. This individual will work with faculty and staff to manage student cases and refine outreach processes in response to data and campus feedback.

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

Welcome to BryAnna Long who is the new department coordinator for the Biology and Physics departments.

The Center for Global Education is delighted to welcome Alison Gerads as a temporary CGE Program Manager. Alison will begin her position on Monday, April 11. Alison will be working with the CGE team over the next six months to support global programs

Faculty/Staff Development Opportunities

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

- 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

- 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

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.

Faculty Governance

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

Joint Faculty Assembly (JFA) meeting: Thursday, April 28 4:30-5:30 p.m.

For more information regarding these meeting watch for emails from jfachairandvicechair@csbsju.edu

The Buzz on Campus

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](#)

The Eugene J. McCarthy Residency Keynote Lecture with Dr. Siyabulela Mandela: Global Activism, Youth, and Social Movements - Thursday, April 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Gorecki 204A, CSB. The 14th McCarthy Scholar in Residence is Dr. Siyabulela Mandela, an internationally known human rights and peace activist. The great-grandson of Nelson Mandela, he holds a Ph.D. in International Relations and Conflict Studies from Nelson Mandela University and currently works at the Journalists for Human Rights.

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.

The Eugene J. McCarthy Center and CSB+SJU Presidents Offices present History of the 1960's Environmental Revolutions: The Roles of Rachel Carson and Presidents Kennedy and Johnson featuring Dr. Douglas Brinkley - Monday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. Founders Room Quad 170, SJU

Dr. Brinkley is a distinguished history professor, CNN presidential historian, seven-time New York Times Bestselling Author, Grammy award winner, and the author of a forthcoming book, Silent Spring Revolution: John F. Kennedy, Rachel Carson, Lyndon Johnson and the Great Environmental Awakening.

Terrance Simien & the Zydeco Experience - Saturday, April 23 @ 7:30 in the Escher Auditorium

Terrance Simien and his bandmates create a spicy blend of New Orleans flavored-world-funk-reggae-

blues-American Zydeco music that beckons you out of your seat and onto your feet. Simien's legendary live performances incorporate spoons on washboards, complex vocal harmonies and a diverse repertoire that feel more like a party than a show.

[More Information](#)

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](#)