

# **THE BUZZ:** Academic Affairs Weekly Newsletter



## From the Provost's Office

### **COMMENCEMENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: (see email from Academic Affairs 4/21)**

Thank you to all who have volunteered to help with the commencement ceremonies. As you know, we are hosting in-person commencement ceremonies for our graduating seniors and their two guests this year. We will host the College of Saint Benedict Commencement Ceremony on Saturday May 15 at 2:00 p.m. and the Saint John's University Commencement ceremony on Sunday, May 16 at 2:00 p.m. Both events will be held at Clemens Stadium at SJU unless weather requires a move to the Haehn Campus Center Fieldhouse at CSB.

If you can join us, please let us know via this Forms Manager submission **by May 7:**

<https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/6G1L3NGI2F>

**Intention to apply for sabbatical:** To be eligible to apply for sabbatical, a faculty member must meet the sabbatical criteria and have submitted the intent to apply for sabbatical form ([Intent to apply for sabbatical](#)) by **Monday, May 10, 2021**. Sabbatical Proposals submitted by faculty members who did not file an Intent to Apply for Sabbatical by the deadline set by the FDRC will not be considered. (see email from Academic Affairs sent on 4/26/21)

**Academic Affairs Awards and Recognition:** Due to the pandemic, we will again be celebrating faculty award recipients and recognizing retirees with a special electronic booklet. This document is currently under construction and will be sent out in the summer. Below is a list of faculty and Academic Affairs staff who are retiring.

## Retiring Faculty and Academic Affairs Staff

We would like to congratulate the following faculty and staff on their retirements. Thank you for your service to CSB/SJU and our students.

### Faculty

Jayne Byrne – Nutrition  
Bill Cahoy - School of Theology  
Marcie Givens – Music  
Ellen Jensen - Biology  
Tom Kirkman - Physics  
Janean Kleist- Accounting & Finance  
Janna LaFontaine – Exercise Science & Sports Studies  
John Miller - Computer Science  
Sheila Nelson – Sociology  
LuAnn Reif – Nursing  
Lynn Schnettler - Education  
Tom Sibley – Mathematics  
Stephen Stelzner - Psychology  
Axel Theimer - Music  
David Zoeller- Accounting & Finance

## **Academic Affairs Staff**

Mary Niedenfuer – Languages & Cultures

Deb Wolford – Fine Arts Programming

### **SPRING 2021: Student Course Surveys (BLOCK CD, D, and Full Term)** (see 5/6 email)

For those teaching Block CD, D, and Full Term courses, the survey period starts Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

To better align our student course survey process with the faculty handbook, we have developed appropriate start and end dates for the variety of courses offered each semester.

The start and end dates are outlined below:

Part of Term	Eval Start	Eval End
Block A	FEB 15	FEB 19
Block B	MAR 15	MAR 19
Block C	APR 12	APR 16
Block D	<b>MAY 10</b>	<b>MAY 14</b>
Full Term	<b>MAY 10</b>	<b>MAY 14</b>

### **Need based MN Grants Action**

Minnesota legislators and Gov. Tim Walz are close to making the final decisions on how they'll spend money on higher education — including whether they'll invest in college students through need-based State Grants. CSB and SJU students benefit from these grants. **Forty-three percent of college students from Minnesota depend on these grants to help keep college affordable.** But the size of the grants has not kept up with need, especially as COVID-19 has taken a toll on the state's economy and families' finances. Policymakers can help college students by putting more money into the Minnesota State Grant program.

**You can help.** Key legislators are meeting to make decisions about higher education spending. These legislators from the House and Senate who are on the higher education conference committee need to hear from you. As do Speaker Melissa Hortman, who leads the House, Majority Leader Paul Gazelka, who leads the Senate, and Gov. Walz. You can easily send all of them a note, using a web tool set up by the Minnesota Private College Council, [click here](#). Legislators and our governor should increase the size of these grants and help low- and middle-income college students across the state. Students would benefit whether they attend private nonprofit colleges or public institutions. Please consider reaching out to policymakers on this important issue for our students today

## Human Resources

**Faculty Contracts:** Faculty contracts were issued on **April 30, 2021** and the contract acceptance is due by **May 17, 2021**. Contracts will be processed electronically this year; you will receive an email from [csbsjucontract@csbsju.edu](mailto:csbsjucontract@csbsju.edu) with instructions for approving your contract in the new system. For more information, see the email from Academic Affairs on 4/13/21.

**Voluntary Vaccination Report:** Completion of this form is voluntary. The data collected will be used for statistical tracking only and will be received by the Director of Human Resources and Employee COVID Coordinator/Director of Environmental Health and Safety. Your submission is anonymous unless you choose to include your name.

[More Information](#)

## Libraries

**Fall 2021 Library Orders:** Thinking ahead to your Fall classes? Don't forget to send us your [streaming video](#) and [library-licensed ebook](#) requests for the fall semester 2021. [Contact David Wuolu](#), Collection Development Librarian, with your requests or questions.

**Streaming videos provide asynchronous learning opportunities for students.** [Swank](#) and [Criterion On-Demand](#) offer feature films, while [Kanopy](#) licenses documentaries that we don't already have available on [Films on Demand](#) or [Academic Video Online \(AVON\)](#). Please send David the list of films you'd like streamed for next semester before **August 16** to make sure films are ready to go by the 1<sup>st</sup> week of classes. Keep in mind if you requested films in the past that you need to request films again for the new semester (they expire and are too expensive to auto-renew.)

**Library ebook Requests:** Please send David any request for library ebooks (licensed multi-user ebooks) for the upcoming semester. This could save your students money! Please check with us about availability on a title-by-title basis. Ebooks currently available are searchable in our [library catalog](#) and there are direct links to the various platforms on our [eBooks page](#). If you'd like suggestions about relevant resources, [your liaison librarian](#) is happy to help.

## Undergraduate Research

**Call for Undergraduate Research Faculty Advisory Committee Members:** The Undergraduate Research Program is seeking new committee members to serve on the Undergraduate Research Faculty Advisory Committee (URFAC)! The URFAC exists to provide oversight, support, and visioning for all student/faculty collaborative undergraduate research and creative work at CSB/SJU. The committee is structured to have representation from each division (NS, SS, FA, & HM) in order to ensure breadth and depth of expertise in research and scholarship in each academic area. Beginning in Fall 2021, we are seeking:

- 1 Social Science representative - 3 year term
- 1 Natural Science representative - 1 year term

The URFAC meets 1-2 times per month for about one hour during the academic year; meetings are scheduled around committee member availability. Outside of scheduled meetings, we ask for quick responses to email questions/requests for feedback (typically 2-3 per month). We do not meet over the summer months. The commitment is reasonable, yet the work this group accomplishes is meaningful and impacts our students and research directly.

Those interested in serving, should submit 1) current curriculum vitae and 2) letter of intent that includes the following:

- 1) Evidence of recent scholarly/creative work and mentorship of undergraduate research
- 2) Why you are interested in serving on URFAC
- 3)  $\frac{3}{4}$  page limit

Applicants should be able to:

- Commit to the outlined term of service (renewable by application)
- Attendance at URFAC meetings

Application deadline is **August 23, 2021**, with intent to notify applicants the first week of fall semester! Please submit your materials here: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/VOH9JAQ32R>

For more information about the Undergraduate Research Program, please visit <https://www.csbsju.edu/undergraduate-research-and-creative-work>. If you have any questions, please contact Lindsey Gunnerson Gutsch at [lgutsch001@csbsju.edu](mailto:lgutsch001@csbsju.edu).

### **Call for Proposals for the Emerging Scholars Program 2021-2022 - DUE JUNE 1:**

Undergraduate Research is now accepting proposals for our third cohort of the Emerging Scholars Program for the Academic Year of 2021-2022. If you are interested in mentoring an Emerging Scholar and have a well-designed project, please consider applying by June 1 via our application: <https://www.csbsju.edu/forms/QCAHYQ34DI> Please contact Lindsey Gutsch for more information: [gutsch001@csbsju.edu](mailto:gutsch001@csbsju.edu)

## IT Services

**Training Workshops:** IT Services is offering some new training workshops through the summer to assist in preparing for Fall. We've added sessions such as "Designing Your Canvas Course for Fall Semester" and "Zoom - New Features for the Fall Semester."

Visit <https://www.csbsju.edu/instructional-technology/technology-training/training-workshops> for more information.

## Faculty Development

**CSD TRAINING:** We are pleased to announce a faculty development opportunity for faculty who will be, or are considering, teaching the CSD: Systems course. This training will be particularly focused on how to teach issues of gender, race, and ethnicity in a time period or culture different from our own and will be well-suited for faculty who plan on teaching CSD: Systems on study abroad, or those whose course will range outside of the contemporary United States. Think Again Training will be providing the training in the form of a workshop on **Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 12 and 1 – 3.** Some short readings may be provided to participants prior to the workshop. If you plan on attending the workshop, **please RSVP with [Laura Schmitz](#).** Contact [Shane Miller](#) with any questions about the training

## Faculty Governance

A big thank you to Greg Schroeder for his service as the 2020-2021 JFS Chair! Welcome to the newly elected senators, faculty governance committee members, and the new JFS Chair and Vice Chair.

### Executive Committee of the Senate for 2021-22

Claire Haeg (Chair)

Parker Wheatley (Vice Chair)

Phil Kronebusch

Jonathan Nash

Mary Stenson

Parliamentarian (TBD)

Going forward watch for emails from Claire Haeg for information about JFA/JFS meetings and Zoom links.

## The Buzz on Campus

**Piano Extravaganza:** Listen to the CSB|SJU keyboard faculty as they present a program on all things piano! The event is livestream only; view the link on the music department website. **Sunday, May 9 at 3:00 pm.** [More Information](#)

**Chinese Gardens as Sites for Sighting, Citing, and Inciting -Talk by Dr. Carol Brash.** Art History and Asian Studies prof Dr. Carol Brash will give a 30 min. virtual artist talk on **May 10 at 5pm** on the many functions of Chinese gardens from the 11th-21st century. View gardens as ways to challenge aesthetic trends and ways of seeing (sighting), to serve to transmit history, literature and the arts (citing) and also to function as a means for the patron to quietly engage in political protest or in some newer gardens to raise awareness of past injustices (inciting).FAE Approved.[More Information](#)

**Visit SOAR-SEnior Art thesis Exhibition at SJU Art Center:** Congratulations from Fine Arts Programming and the Gallery to the following art seniors: Christian Balko, Justin Biren, Elizabeth Boyd, Maria Hernandez-Chaire, Zoe Huot-Link, Ka Ying(Bruce) Lee, Molly Meyer, Madelynn Mocol, Cara Mullon, Abby Peddle and Mackenzie Schurmacher. This strong exhibition showcases work in

film, video, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, photography, book arts, and graphic design. Gallery Hours:  
**Tues- Fri 11-4pm. Sun. 1-4pm. [More Information](#)**

**Do you have a submission for The Buzz? Click [here](#) to submit.**