

# Future Faculty Focus

THE E-NEWSLETTER OF THE VCU PREPARING FUTURE FACULTY (PFF) PROGRAM

MARCH/APRIL 2011

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## Best of luck with the second half of the 2011 Spring Semester!!! May will be here before you know it!!!

PFF courses for the second half of this semester are:

**GRAD 605**, Section 901: Professional Specialty Seminar - Medical, Health, Physical and Life Sciences Section. **Room: Hibbs 5167**

**GRAD 605**, Section 905: Professional Specialty Seminar - Social Sciences, Business and Management, Arts and the Humanities. **Room: Harris Hall 2104**

**Reminder!** All requirements for **GRAD 606**: Spring 2011 (Internship/Externship in Professional Teaching) need to be completed by May 13, 2010.

If you are planning to participate in **GRAD 606** for the summer semester, be sure to submit your proposals by May 13, 2011 to this office for **prior** approval! The deadline is one week before the first day of summer classes. Please email [pffprogram@vcu.edu](mailto:pffprogram@vcu.edu) ASAP so we can begin discussing your proposal.

Please feel free to contact this office with questions about the program whether you are seeking the PFF Program Certificate of Achievement or are just interested in taking specific courses.

## **The requirements for the PFF PROGRAM CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT are as follows:**

### **The requirements for the full program are as follows:**

In order to receive the PFF Program Certificate of Achievement, students must successfully complete the nine credit hours of PFF Program coursework (detailed below) and submit the electronic portfolio for evaluation. This includes the following:

GRAD 601 The Academic Profession: Two-credit hour lecture course (offered in the fall semester, students who entered the program during or prior to Fall 2009 semester will substitute the one-credit hour GRAD 601 and one-credit hour GRAD 604 course for this requirement)

GRAD 602 Teaching, Learning and Technology in Higher Education: Two-credit hour lecture course (offered in the spring semester)

GRAD 603 Responsible Conduct of Research  
One-credit hour lecture course (8-week short course, offered in the fall semester). Substitutions are available for postdoctoral scholars and medical students who have completed a comparable credit-bearing course. Contact the PFF Program Office for specific details at [pffprogram@vcu.edu](mailto:pffprogram@vcu.edu).

GRAD 605 Professional Specialty Seminar  
One-credit hour seminar course (8-week short course, offered in the spring semester)

GRAD 606 Internship/Externship in Professional Teaching: Offered in fall, spring and summer semesters). Prerequisites are GRAD 601, GRAD 602, GRAD 603, and GRAD 605. (GRAD 606 is a 3-credit hour mentored capstone experience.)

Submission and evaluation of the electronic portfolio (see details on the PFF Program website: <http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/programs/pff/courses.html>)

Upon completion of these requirements, a text comment will be recorded on the student's academic transcript to indicate completion of the PFF Certificate of Achievement. Students and their faculty mentors will be recognized for this accomplishment at a Graduate School event, usually held in the spring semester at the annual Graduate Research Symposium.

***Please contact our office with any questions about the PFF Program!***

### **Preparing Future Faculty (PFF) Program, VCU Graduate School**

[Web](#)   [Blog](#)   [Facebook](#)

E-mail: [pffprogram@vcu.edu](mailto:pffprogram@vcu.edu)

Phone: 804.827.4544; 804.827.4545

Mail: 1001 Grove Avenue, P.O. Box 843051, Richmond, Virginia 23284

Visit: The Moseley House, Room 203, Monroe Park Campus

## **Graduate Student Association (GSA)**

### **Upcoming Events Sponsored by the GSA**

#### **“Short Course “Intro to Ballroom Dancing”**

When: Thursday, March 24, 2011, 5 pm – 7 pm

Where: Larrick Student Center, MCV Campus

#### **Melodies & Snacks Series**

When: Friday, April 1, 2011, 12 pm – 1 pm

Where: Patterson Memorial Garden, MCV Campus, Court End

#### **Jazz Jamboree**

When: Thursday, April 7, 2011, 4 pm – 6:30 pm

Where: Bear Hall Lawn, MCV Campus

#### **Melodies & Snacks Series**

When: Friday, April 15, 2011, 12 pm – 1 pm

Where: Patterson Memorial Garden, MCV Campus

#### **GSA Research Symposium**

When: Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 10 am - 2 pm

Where: Commonwealth Ballroom, Commons, Monroe Park Campus

#### **Melodies & Snacks Series**

When: Friday, April 22, 2011, 12 pm – 1 pm

Where: Patterson Memorial Garden, MCV Campus

#### **MCV Campus Study Break**

When: Tuesday, April 26, 2011, 12 pm – 1 pm

Where: Patterson Memorial Garden, MCV Campus

#### **MCV Campus Study Break**

When: Saturday, April 28, 2011, 6 pm – 7 pm

Where: Larrick Study Center, MCV Campus

#### **Rams Night Out**

When: Saturday, April 30, 2010, 6 pm – 11 pm

Come on out on a Richmond bar tour and mix and mingle with VCU alumni!

Transportation is provided!

## VCU Workshops and Events for Current and Future Members of the Academy

March & April workshops from the [Center for Teaching Excellence \(CTE\)](#) are listed below. These workshops are open to graduate students. For more information on the workshop topics and to register, click on the topic below. If the hyperlinks are not enabled on your computer, then please visit the [CTE Workshops page](#) for information.

March 21, 2011	1:00 pm	Improving the Effectiveness of Your Lectures
March 24, 2011	1:00 pm	You Know What You Taught, But What Did They Learn?
March 25, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Re-thinking Grading and Assessment
March 31, 2011	1:00 pm	Engaging Students in Their Learning
April 1, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Exploring Web-based Learning Spaces
April 8, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Networked Learning
April 12, 2011	9:00 am	Promoting Critical Thinking in the Classroom
April 15, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Beyond Borders: Teaching and Learning Abroad
April 18, 2011	1:00 pm	You Know What you Taught, But What Did They Learn?
April 20, 2011	2:00 pm	How Not To Kill With Powerpoint
April 22, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Conceptualizing a World-Class Student Experience
April 26, 2011	9:00 am	The Affective Domain: The Role of Emotions, Attitudes, and Motivation in Teaching and Learning
April 29, 2011	12:00 pm	CTE Brown Bag Lunch: Change in the Classroom: Overcoming Resistance to New Teaching Techniques

[VCU Libraries](#) offer a variety of workshops of interest to graduate students. The spring semester workshops are listed below for the months of March and April. For more information on the workshop topics, please visit <http://www.library.vcu.edu/events/>. Some workshops/events require you to **register**, so be sure to sign in to the website and check the specific topic of interest. You can always visit the [VCU Library Events and Classes page](#) or go to the [VCU Training website](#) to search for other events that may be of interest. \*The information listed here is provided by the sponsoring office.

March 21- April 30, 2011	NA	Traveling Exhibit: Binding Wounds, Pushing Boundaries: African Americans in Civil War Medicine/Tompkins-McCaw Library
March 22, 2011	12:00 pm	RefWorks/Tompkins-McCaw Library
March 22, 2011	4:00 pm	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
March 23, 2011	11:00 pm	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
March 23, 2011	12:00 pm	Introduction to Searching CINAHL/Tompkins-McCaw Library

March 24, 2011	12:00 pm	PubMed/Tompkins-McCaw Library
March 24, 2011	12:30 pm	Film Screening: Who Does She think She Is?/Cabell Library
March 24, 2011	7:30 pm	26 <sup>th</sup> Annual Brown-Lyons Lecture/Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
March 28, 2011	12:00 pm	RefWorks Online Workshop/Online
March 29, 2011	11:00 am	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
March 29, 2011	11:00 am	PsycINFO/Sanger Hall
March 30, 2011	12:00 pm	Library Orientation/Tompkins-McCaw Library
March 30, 2011	4:00 pm	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
March 31, 2011	12:00 pm	Advanced PubMed/Tompkins-McCaw Library
March 31, 2011	7:30 am	VCU Libraries Exhibit/Tompkins-McCaw Library
April 5, 2011	4:00 pm	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
April 5, 2011	6:00 pm	Special Collections and Archives: after hours, ZINE NIGHT/Cabell Library
April 6, 2011	11:00 am	Walk-In Research & Writing Clinic/Cabell Library
April 6, 2011	12:00 pm	Film Screening: Sick Around the World/Hunton Student Center

The [VCU Office of Research](#) offers training opportunities, events and pertinent deadline announcements throughout the year. The events for March are listed below. The events for April have not yet been posted. Please visit the [Office of Research Events and Deadlines page](#) at <http://www.research.vcu.edu/events/index.htm> for more information.

March 25, 2011	12:00 am	4 <sup>th</sup> Friday Lunch & Learn: HIPAA in the IRB: What You Need to Know
March 30, 2011	1:00 pm	Webinar by Huron: A Simplified Process for Managing Unanticipated Problems, Adverse Events, and Other New Information
March 31, 2011	1:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Thursday for Human Subjects Protection: Thinking About Research Risk in Special Populations: The Very Young and Old

Remember that you can explore VCU by using the A to Z directory located at <http://atoz.vcu.edu/>.

Does your department or office offer workshops, seminars, or other activities of interest to graduate students and individuals interested in academic careers? E-mail our office at [pffprogram@vcu.edu](mailto:pffprogram@vcu.edu) at least one month before the event to see if an announcement can be placed in Future Faculty Focus!

## VCU-sponsored Social, Personal Development, Arts and Popular Culture Events of Interest to Graduate Students

### **VCU Department of Dance & Choreography Present the Spring Senior Project Concert**

The Senior Project serves as a capstone experience in both performance and choreography for graduate Dance majors. **A show not to miss!**

**When:** Thursday, Friday & Saturday, April 28, 29, & 30, 2011 at 8:00 pm

**Where:** Grace Street Theater, 934 West Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia.

**Cost:** Tickets are \$15 & \$10 for students, and may be reserved at [www.showclix.com](http://www.showclix.com) or by calling 804-828-2020.

### **VCU Department of Music**

Enjoy the cello music of Zuill Bailey as a part of [Cellopalooza III!](#) **“Bailey is one of the most exciting cellists to come along in years.”** – *The Kansas City Star*

Zuill Bailey is considered one of the pre-eminent cellists of his generation. His rare combination of compelling artistry, technical finesse, and engaging personality has secured his place as one of the most sought-after cellists today. Mr. Bailey has appeared at the Kennedy Center, Alice Tully Hall, and Carnegie Hall, where he made his debut performing the U.S. premiere of Miklos Theodorakis' Rhapsody for Cello and Orchestra. In addition to his extensive touring engagements, Bailey is the Artistic Director of El Paso Pro Musica and Professor of Cello at the University of Texas at El Paso.

**When:** Saturday, April 2, 2011 at 8 pm

**Where:** W.E. Singleton Center for the Performing Arts at 922 Park Ave.

**Cost:** Students \$10, VCU employees \$28, Adults \$32, Seniors (60+) \$28

### **Annual William E. and Miriam S. Blake Lecture**

David Brakke, PhD, Professor and Chair, Religious Studies, Indiana University  
Bloomington: ***Why the Early Church Did Not Reject Gnosticism***

Dr. Brakke is the author of several ground-breaking books on the history of ancient Christianity, including *Demons and the Making of the Monk*, *Athanasius and the Politics of Asceticism*, *Talking Back: A Monastic Handbook for Combating Demons*, and *The Gnostics*, published in November 2010 by Harvard University Press, the basis for the Blake Lecture. He is Editor of the *Journal of Early Christian Studies*.

**When:** Thursday, March 31, 2011 at 7:00 pm

**Where:** Grace Street Theater, 934 West Grace Street, Richmond, Virginia.

For more information contact Andrew Crislip ([acrislip@vcu.edu](mailto:acrislip@vcu.edu))

### Writing Center Workshops

The following workshops are offered until March 25, 2011. All workshops last approximately 50 minutes and are held in Hibbs Hall, Room B16 (in the basement). No registration is required.

Mondays at 10 am and Wednesdays at 3 pm	<u>Feng</u> Shui for Writers: Making your writing flow
Mondays at 11 am and Tuesdays at 2 pm	From Chaos to Clarity: Taking control of your research
Mondays at 12 pm and Wednesdays at 11 am	Research CSI: How to get what you need from your sources
Mondays at 2:15 pm and Wednesdays at 12 pm	The Power of the Paragraph: Crafting the building blocks for a strong argument
Tuesdays at 11 am and Thursdays at 2 pm	Marketing Yourself: How to stand out in a personal statement
Wednesdays at 2 pm and Thursdays at 11 am	Frustrated by Feedback? Understanding and using peer and teacher comments

### **The Annual Volunteer Thank You Celebration!**

If you, your class, or your organization volunteered this year, you are invited for FREE pool, supper, and door prizes!

**When:** Thursday, April 14, 2011, any time between 5pm and 7pm

**Where:** Break Point Game Room in the Lower Level of the Student Commons

**Why:** To say thank you for all you have done for the Richmond area this year!

**VCU Recreational Sports** offers a number of exciting outdoor recreational opportunities. Visit the recreational sports website for some fun and challenging opportunities!

<http://www.recsports.vcu.edu/>

### **“Tomorrow’s Professor” Postings**

Each month we showcase postings on four diverse topics related to faculty issues, teaching and learning, and scholarship from the multi-organization sponsored “Tomorrow’s Professor” postings program. Each posting is listed with Dr. Rick Reis’s selected quotation introduction as well as his own introduction and the title. This introduction will provide you with background

necessary to decide if you want to read the whole posting. To read the full posting, simply follow the link provided. To learn more about "Tomorrow's Professor" in general, please visit <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/CTL/Tomprof/index.shtml> and then <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/postings.php>. There are almost 1,000 postings. To learn more about Dr. Reis, visit his website: <http://ctl.stanford.edu/Tomprof/reis.html>.

### **Tomorrow's Professor msg.#709 Blue About the Crimsom Plan for General Education**

*"The Harvard Faculty of Arts and Sciences is poised to approve an embarrassing retreat in general education. The committee charged with reforming the current Core Curriculum has instead abandoned the whole idea. In its place, the committee recommends only a minimum distribution requirement for undergraduates-three courses in each of three fields. Since undergraduates will major in one of these fields, this means a distribution requirement of six courses chosen from hundreds offered by faculty in their various disciplines."*

Folks,

The posting below looks at Harvard University's current efforts to revise its undergraduate general education program. It is by Thomas Ehrlich is a senior scholar the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and former president of Indiana University. It is #23 in the monthly series called Carnegie Foundation Perspectives. These short commentaries exploring various educational issues are produced by the CFAT. The Foundation invites your response at: [CarnegiePresident@carnegiefoundation.org](mailto:CarnegiePresident@carnegiefoundation.org). Reprinted with permission.

Regards,  
Rick Reis  
[reis@stanford.edu](mailto:reis@stanford.edu)

### **Tomorrow's Professor msg.#719 Three Levels for General Education Assessment**

*"Campuses typically use one or more of three basic approaches to assessing the general education program, focusing at the course, program, or institutional level"*

Folks,

The posting below looks at specific examples of general education assessment, course, program, and institutional. It is from Chapter 4, The Assessment Plan in, Assessing General Education Programs, by Mary J. Allen professor emeritus of psychology, California State University-



Bakersfield and Former Director of the California State University Institute for Teaching and Learning. Anker Publishing Company, Inc. Bolton, Massachusetts. Copyright ? 2006 by Anker Publishing Company, Inc. All rights reserved. ISBN 1-882982-95-9 [www.ankerpub.com](http://www.ankerpub.com).

Regards,  
Rick Reis  
[reis@stanford.edu](mailto:reis@stanford.edu)

### **Tomorrow's Professor msg.#724 Reflections on More Than Half a Century of Teaching**

*"I've cited this background because it bears directly on how my philosophy of student-centered teaching has emerged, evolving out of my experiences as a Spanish-speaker in the United States, acquiring a universe of knowledge in a second language. More importantly, though, my regard for the students in my classes is born out of my regard for the diversity of human life and languages on the planet. I've witnessed and experienced the result of disregarding that diversity in schools and in public."*

Folks,

The posting below is a moving account of lessons learned in over 50 years of teaching. It is by Visiting Scholar and Lecturer in English, Philip D. Ortego y Gasca, Ph.D., , Texas A&M University-Kingsville; Emeritus Professor of English, Texas State University System-Sul Ross. [[felipeo@usawide.net](mailto:felipeo@usawide.net)]. Copyright ?2006 by the author. All rights reserved. . Reprinted with permission.

Regards,  
Rick Reis  
[reis@stanford.edu](mailto:reis@stanford.edu)

### **Tomorrow's Professor msg.#791 Birthright**

*"When I first did this calculation, my reaction was, "Is this a great country, or what!" Sure, but there was also a lot of luck involved. We caught the wave: the GI Bill and the subsequent knowledge explosion created both opportunity and demand for learning. And we were lucky to have teachers who believed in us and created an atmosphere of expectation that, "of course you're going to go to college."*

Folks,

In this month's Carnegie Perspectives looks at the importance of access to higher education for all. It is by Ray Bacchetti, scholar-in-residence at the Foundation. The posting is #33 in the

monthly series called Carnegie Foundation Perspectives. These short commentaries exploring various educational issues are produced by the CFAT. The Foundation invites your response at: [CarnegiePresident@carnegiefoundation.org](mailto:CarnegiePresident@carnegiefoundation.org). © 2007 The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 51 Vista Lane, Stanford, CA 94305 Reprinted with permission.

Regards,  
Rick Reis  
[reis@stanford.edu](mailto:reis@stanford.edu)

