

Future Faculty Focus

This month...

Page 1-2 – Updates from the PFF Program Office

Page 2-3 – Current Events in the Graduate School

Page 3-6 – Activities and Events Around Campus

Page 7-8– “Tomorrow’s Professor” Postings

Updates from the PFF Program Office

It is hard to believe that we are already beginning a new academic year!

The PFF Program office extends a warm ‘welcome’ to the students who are starting the PFF Program with enrollment in GRAD 601 “The Academic Profession” and to the incoming graduate students who attended the orientation day workshop for GTAs and students interested in PFF! And an enthusiastic ‘Welcome Back’ is extended to continuing graduate students involved with the PFF Program, as well as to the faculty, staff, and administrators whose support and involvement make the program such a success!

The PFF Program office has worked diligently in the past months to develop a comprehensive set of enhancements to the program that reflect student feedback. Through a series of dialogues with the PFF Advisory Council and students in the program, these enhancements have been submitted to the Programs and Courses Committee of the Graduate Council. A PowerPoint document available on the PFF Program BlackBoard site outlines the proposed enhancements to the PFF Program (select the “VCU PFF Overview” tab). We look forward to updating you via the *Future Faculty Focus* e-newsletter once the approval process has concluded (anticipated mid-fall semester). Between now and that time, please feel free to contact our office at pffprogram@vcu.edu with any questions you have.

A few program notes:

- **GRAD 606 Spring proposals are due in our office on or before one week prior to the first day of classes, January 5, 2010.** The Spring 2010 proposal and course completion guide will be available in October. If you wish to get a head start on the proposal, please access and utilize the Fall 2009 guide available on the BlackBoard site and contact Sharon or Fatima at pffprogram@vcu.edu to discuss further.

- **Resources for future faculty on the PFF Program BlackBoard site!** Make sure you explore the PFF Program’s BlackBoard site, which contains a number of helpful resources. Click on the “Resources” tab, and you will find listings for books, websites, and other resource materials that are recommended for the areas of teaching and learning, academia and the professoriate in general, as well as discipline/profession-specific resources. If you locate a resource that you think should be listed, please email Fatima and Sharon at pffprogram@vcu.edu and let us know! We are currently working on a resource section for the academic job search, which we hope to roll out in October!

As always, please let us know if you have any questions and if we can be of assistance to you. Best wishes for a wonderful start to the new academic year!

PFF Program Office
pffprogram@vcu.edu

Current Events in the Graduate School

- The Graduate School Classifieds is a resource for graduate students and members of the community to share information regarding apartments, roommates, and part-time and temporary jobs in and around the city of Richmond. To post a submission to the Graduate School Classifieds, contact [Lori A. Floyd-Miller](mailto:Lori.A.Floyd-Miller) with the details of your request. You can access the Classifieds via the link on the Graduate School’s webpage or directly via <http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/community/board/classifieds.html>.
- Spread the word about the VCU Graduate and Professional School Fair! Do you know someone who is thinking about graduate school at VCU or at other institutions? The Graduate School cordially invites you to participate in our 2009 Graduate and Professional School Fair.

Date: Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009

Time: 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Location: Monroe Park Campus
 University Student Commons (second floor)
 Commonwealth Ballroom and Richmond Salons

Cost: Free for VCU, University of Richmond, Virginia Union University and Virginia State University students with student ID

If you have questions please contact: Kelly A. Kendrick, Recruitment coordinator, Graduate School;
 Phone: (804) 828-7033, E-mail: kakendrick@vcu.edu

- Upcoming events from the Graduate Student Association (GSA):
 - **Meet the Dean and wine tasting**
 Come join us for an evening where you have the opportunity to meet the Graduate School Dean, Dr. Doug Boudinot, as well as other administrators on campus. There will be food, drink and a wine tasting for those who would like to participate. If you plan on participating in the wine tasting please bring a valid ID that shows your date of birth.
Wednesday, September 16th, 4-6pm, Scott House, 909 W. Franklin St.



- **Meet & Greet at Mulligan's**
 The GSA is hosting a Meet & Greet at Mulligan's on **Friday, October 9th**. The GSA will provide free appetizers and Mulligan's will provide drink specials to students with valid I.D. 5pm until the appetizers run out!
 Mulligan's Sports Grille
 1323 W. Main Street
 Up on the roof deck is weather is permitting.
- **Barnes & Noble @VCU --- Monroe Park Campus**
 The GSA is hosting a "Meet and Greet" at the Monroe Park Campus Barnes&Noble @VCU bookstore on **Thurs, Nov 5 and Fri, Nov 6 from 4-7pm**.
 The bookstore will provide a 20% discount on all items (excluding textbooks). This is the perfect time to start holiday shopping as well as buy diploma frames for students graduating in December!
 The GSA will provide refreshments and the bookstore will provide Starbucks coffee.
 When you arrive please check-in at the GSA table for your discount coupon.
 Also, if you do not have parking, please park in the West Broad Street deck (above the bookstore) and bring your green entrance ticket with you to the GSA table for free validation.
 For any children who will be at the event, storytime will start around 5:45 or 6pm.
 If you have any questions, contact Lori A. Floyd-Miller at (804) 828-2233 or lafloyd@vcu.edu.
 Barnes & Noble @VCU
 1111 W. Broad Street
- **VCU Soccer vs. William and Mary. Family Day Event sponsored by the Alumni Association**
 October 10th - Graduate Students invited to come out to the events where they will cheer on the Rams and meet VCU alumni. (VCU's Sports Backers Stadium, sports complex next to the Diamond)

Activities and Events Around Campus

- Upcoming 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](#) to learn more and to **register**.

Date	Time	Workshop Topic
9/8/2009	1:00pm	Web Conferencing Tools for Instruction
9/9/2009	9:00am	Exploring Social Media for Teaching and Learning
9/10/2009	9:00am	Getting Started with Blackboard
9/10/2009	1:00pm	Engaging your students in their learning
9/11/2009	Noon	Brown Bag Luncheon - Facilitating Difficult Dialogues
9/14/2009	9:00am	Assignment and Gradebook Management in Blackboard
9/16/2009	9:00am	Formative and Summative Assessment Online
9/17/2009	10:00am	Memory and Learning
9/18/2009	9:00am	Improving the Effectiveness of Your Lectures
9/18/2009	Noon	Brown Bag Luncheon - New Opportunities for Presenting and Visualizing Information
9/21/2009	9:00am	LessonBuilder: Create Interactive Course Content

Date	Time	Workshop Topic
9/21/2009	1:00pm	<u>Blogging: Exploring Learning Opportunities for Faculty and Students</u>
9/22/2009	1:00pm	<u>Introduction to Podcasting</u>
9/22/2009	1:00pm	<u>Organizing Your Web Resources for Learning: RSS Feeds and Online Bookmarking</u>
9/23/2009	10:00am	<u>Classroom Management</u>
9/24/2009	1:00am	<u>The Affective Domain: The Role of Emotions in Teaching and Learning</u>
9/24/2009	9:00am	<u>Promoting Critical Thinking in the Classroom</u>
9/25/2009	Noon	<u>Brown Bag Luncheon - Learning-Centered Teaching at VCU: Reflections and Ruminations</u>
9/28/2009	1:00pm	<u>Screen Recording with Camtasia to Support Teaching and Learning</u>
9/29/2009	1:00pm	<u>Creating Podcasts for Instruction</u>
9/30/2009	10:00am	<u>Introduction to Problem-Based Learning</u>
10/2/2009	9:00am	<u>Developing a Teaching Philosophy</u>
10/2/2009	Noon	<u>Brown Bag Luncheon - Exploring Open Courseware: Issues and Questions</u>
10/2/2009	1:00pm	<u>Developing a Learning-Centered Syllabus: Contract to Roadmap</u>
10/2/2009	11:00pm	<u>Developing a Teaching Portfolio</u>

- The Qualitative Research Interest Group (QRIG) calendar of meeting hosts for 2009-2010 is now available. You will see that some times and locations are listed as TBD. If you would like to receive future updates on this group, please contact [Dr. Cornelia Ramsey](#) for more information.
 - SEPTEMBER— Center for Clinical & Translational Research & Institute of Women’s Health—Meeting date: Monday, September 28 Time; 4-6pm Location: Research Incubator, 1200 East Clay Street; Contact persons: Cornelia Ramsey & Monica Leisey
 - OCTOBER— Social Work—Meeting date: Thursday, October 22; Time 4-6pm; Location: School of Social Work; Contact persons: Mary Katherine O'Connor & Pam Kovacs
 - NOVEMBER—Occupational Therapy—Meeting date: Friday, November 13; Time 4-6pm; Location: TBD; Contact persons: Dianne Simons & Al Copolillo
 - DECEMBER—Cancelled
 - JANUARY—Family Medicine —Contact persons: Tony Kuzel & Kelly Devers
 - FEBRUARY—Psychology—Contact persons: Wendy Kliewer & Michael Southam-Gerow
 - MARCH—Nursing—Meeting date: Tuesday, March 23; Time 4-5:30pm: Location: TBD; Contact person: Inez Tuck
 - APRIL— Wilder School, Women’s Studies – Contact person: Janet Hutchinson
 - MAY— Education—Meeting date: Tuesday, April 20; Time: 4-6pm ; Location: Oliver Hall 2116; Contact person: Terry Carter

- The VCU Center for the Advancement of Research Methods and Analysis (CARMA) has recently announced the 2009-2010 CARMA Scholars details, which are available on the [CARMA Scholars webpage](#). If you are interested in the webcasts but are not able to participate in the credit-bearing Scholars program, then you may wish to consider the CARMA webcast program, which is free of charge for VCU faculty and students. The fall schedule is listed below, and the complete schedule along with additional information is available on the [CARMA website](#). The same page will also outline the resources available to you as a VCU student for viewing past webcasts via the CARMA Library. Please contact the [CARMA Office](#) for more information on these opportunities.

Date:	Title:	Start Time
9/25/2009	Computer-Aided Text Analysis: Tips and Techniques Dr. Jeremy Short, Texas Tech University	12:00:00 PM (EST)
10/30/2009	Best Methods for Mediation Analysis Dr. David Mackinnon, Arizona State University	12:00:00 PM (EST)
12/4/2009	Detecting and Diagnosing Model Misspecification Dr. Deborah Bandalos, University of Georgia	12:00:00 PM (EST)
	Mean Structure Models with Latent Variables Dr. Greg Hancock, University of Maryland	1:30:00 PM (EST)
	What Are Latent Variables? Dr. Ken Bollen, University of North Carolina	3:00:00 PM (EST)

- Upcoming VCU Events (Follow embedded links for more information. If your computer does not enable hyperlinks visit the [VCU Events](#) website where you can find more information on the comprehensive list of events.) Please contact the event sponsor with any inquiries.

Events Sponsored by VCU Libraries:

Date	Time	Event Title	Category	Location
9/10	Noon	Brown Bag Lunch: Keeping Current with Your Research	Library	Tompkins-McCaw Library
9/10	5:00pm	VCU Libraries Community Chest Night-Capital Ale House	Library	Capital Ale House, Metro Richmond locations
9/15	Noon	Brown Bag Lunch: Searching Decoded	Library	Tompkins-McCaw Library
9/17	Noon	Brown Bag Lunch: Effective Literature Searching to Support Your Research	Library	Tompkins-McCaw Library
9/17	5:00pm	VCU Libraries Community Chest Night-Capital Ale House	Library	Capital Ale House, Metro Richmond locations
9/24	5:00pm	VCU Libraries Community Chest Night-Capital Ale House	Library	Capital Ale House, Metro Richmond locations
9/28	11:00am	Navigating the VCU Libraries Homepage	Library	Cabell Library
9/30	Noon	Brown Bag Lunch: Evidence-Based Medicine	Library	Tompkins-McCaw Library
9/30	3:00pm	Navigating the VCU Libraries Homepage	Library	Cabell Library

VCU Student Life Events:

Date	Time	Event Title	Category	Location
9/8	Noon	APB Live Concert on the Plaza	Student Life	Univ Student Commons
9/9	3:00pm	OMSA Diversity Film Series-A Raisin in the Sun	Student Life	University Student Commons
9/9	6:00pm	Certified Financial Planning Certification Open House	Student Life	Snead Hall
9/16	10:00am	The 2009 VCU Study Abroad Fall Fair	Academic	Univ Student Commons
9/16	7:00pm	Canoeing Under the Stars- September 16	Recreational Sports	Outing Rental Center
9/17	4:00pm	OMSA LGBT Social Network Group	Student Life	Univ Student Commons
9/19	5:00pm	Fall Block Step Show	Student Life	Siegel Center - Alltel Pavillion
9/23	9:00am	CAA Blood Drive Challenge	Student Life	Univ Student Commons
9/23	3:00pm	OMSA Diversity Film Series-The Bronze Screen: 100 Years of the Latino Image in Hollywood	Student Life	University Student Commons
9/24	10:00am	School of Business 2009 Fall Career Fair	Student Life	Snead Hall

VCU Arts and Popular Culture Events:

Date	Time	Event Title	Category	Location
9/8	8:00pm	Faculty Recital: Bryan Hooten, trombone	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
9/10	8:00pm	Horn Studio Recital	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
9/11	6:00pm	Richard Carlyon: A Retrospective Opening Reception	Arts & Popular Culture	Anderson Gallery
9/20	4:00pm	VCU Guitar Series - Potomac Guitar Quartet	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
9/27	3:00pm	VCU Alumni Concert	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
9/29	8:00pm	Woodwind Ensembles	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts
9/30	7:00pm	Symphonic Wind Ensemble	Arts & Popular Culture	Singleton Center for the Performing Arts

“Tomorrow’s Professor” Postings

Each month we showcase postings on four diverse topics related to the future faculty, teaching, and learning from the multi-organization sponsored “Tomorrow’s Professor” postings program. Each posting is listed with Dr. Rick Reis’s introduction; the title and this introduction will provide you with information to decide if you want to read the whole posting. To read the full posting, simply follow the link provided after Dr. Reis’s introduction. To learn more about “Tomorrow’s Professor” in general, please visit <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/postings.php>. There are over 950 postings. If there is a topic area of particular interest to you, you may want to browse the site. To learn more about Dr. Reis, visit his website: <http://ctl.stanford.edu/Tomprof/reis.html>. We hope that you enjoy this month’s postings and that you find the information to be useful to you during your academic journey!

Tomorrow’s Professor #952 – What They Didn’t Teach You in Graduate School

Folks:

The posting below gives some excellent - and at the same time humorous - advice on completing your PhD. It is Chapter 2 - The PhD, in the book *What They Didn't Teach You in Graduate School: 199 Helpful Hints for Success in Your Academic Career* by Paul Gray and David E. Drew, who are professors at Claremont Graduate University in California, one in information systems and the other in education. Between them they were students in 6 graduate programs, taught full time at 7 universities, and mentored over 50 PhDs, many of whom are now tenured professors. Copyright 2008 by Stylus Publishing, LLC. Cartoons copyright 2008 by Matthew Henry Hall. Published by Stylus Publishing, LLC, 22883 Quicksilver Drive Sterling, Virginia 20166-2102.

Read the rest! Link to: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/posting.php?ID=952>

Tomorrow’s Professor #956 – Assessing How Students Learn

Folks:

The posting below looks at the importance of "how" students learn as well as "what" students learn. It is #44 in the monthly series called Carnegie Foundation Perspectives and is by educator Bill Cerbin. The Foundation invites your response at: CarnegiePresident@carnegiefoundation.org. © 2009 The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, 51 Vista Lane, Stanford, CA 94305 Reprinted with permission.

Read the rest! Link to: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/posting.php?ID=956>

Tomorrow's Professor #254 – So Long and Thanks for the Ph.D.!

Folks:

I highly recommend that all potential and current graduate students, as well as their faculty supervisors check out the Graduate Student Resources on the Web at:

<http://www-personal.umich.edu/%7Edanhorn/graduate.html>. It has a wealth of information on all aspects of the graduate student experience with excellent links to additional resources. Below are two excerpts from the posting, "So long, and thanks for the Ph.D.!" by Ronald T. Azuma, found at the above site. The first excerpt is on initiative and the second on tenacity, both essential personality traits for success in graduate school and beyond

Read the rest! Link to: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/posting.php>

Tomorrow's Professor Posting #85 – Minimizing Mental Lapses During A Lecture

Folks:

The following excerpt provides some valuable insights on how to minimize student mental lapses during a lecture. It is from an excellent book, *Mentor in a Manual, Climbing the Academic Ladder to Tenure*, Madison, WI, Magna Publications, Inc., 1994 , pp.173-174, by A. Clay Schoenfeld and Robert Magnan.

Read the rest! Link to: <http://cgi.stanford.edu/~dept-ctl/cgi-bin/tomprof/posting.php?ID=85>