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School of Humanities

A message to faculty and staff from Georges Van Den Abbeele



Dear friends,

This is the time of year when, every day, an extra minute of sunlight literally comes into our lives as we march from solstice to equinox. As we look forward to the joys of spring, it is good to take stock of where we are and what we can anticipate.

I am happy to announce that, through your extraordinary efforts, we anticipate closing the year in the black, effectively eliminating our School deficit entirely. This has only happened through multiple efforts throughout our community both to find cost savings and to locate new sources of revenue. That said, we cannot become complacent. Our School's fiscal well-being remains utterly dependent on forces beyond our control, any one of which can plunge us back into the red. As long as campus policy downloads onto the School the rising costs of benefit expenses for all employees, all salary increases for non-tenure track faculty, and duly negotiated contractual increases for our represented employees, we remain at risk. And while we can continue to resolve these unfunded mandates by careful fiscal management, there is only so far we can go in terms of cutting resources. That is why I continue to advocate for a revenue-centered budget (used in many major universities), whereby the School would directly receive every penny of tuition from all the classes we teach and then pay a portion of that revenue as a tax for services provided by the central administration. Such a model would have the great virtue of genuine transparency and long-term sustainability for the School's programs while ensuring the kinds of resources we need for adequately supporting our students, our faculty, and our staff. I understand the campus may be considering changes to the current budget model, and I urge you to get involved in whatever discussions may be emerging.

I look forward to more sunny days for the School of Humanities, not just as the seasons change, but as we work together toward building an even more vibrant and exciting intellectual community that is adequately supported by an appropriately favorable fiscal environment.

Georges

New Faculty and Staff, Staff Updates and Retirements

New Faculty:

Joseph Jeon, Professor, English: Joe Jeon received his BA from Johns Hopkins and his PhD from UC Berkeley. He joins the UCI English Department after having taught in English Departments at Pomona College and the University of San Diego. He is the author of two books; one on Asian American poetry and the other on Korean Cinema and the twilight of US global hegemony, and currently serves as the president of the Association for the Study of Arts of the Present (ASAP).

New Staff:

Nadine Edwards, Department Coordinator, AfAm, AsianAm, G&SS: Nadine graduated from Portland State University where she earned a B.S. degree in Woman, Gender and Sexuality Studies. She briefly worked with Temp Services before being hired as the Department Coordinator for our three departments. We are excited to welcome her to UCI and the School of Humanities.

Hannah Fraley, Composition Program Assistant, English: Hannah came to our school as a previous Faculty Assistant with the School of Law. Her start date was 1/3/18. Please introduce yourself to Hannah when you get a chance!

Linda Haghi, Executive Director, Advancement: Linda comes to us after having served as Senior Director of Development at UCI Health raising money for cancer programs. Please welcome Linda to her new leadership position with us.

Jason Kwock, Composition Program Manager, English: Jason came to us from the Department of Criminology Law & Society, where he served as the Department Analyst. He started on December 6th. Please stop by and welcome Jason to the School of Humanities!

Whitney Young, Assistant Director for the Office of Undergraduate Study: Whitney joins us from the School of Education, where she worked as an academic counselor for several years. She is a UCI graduate with a B.A. in Literary Journalism, and she recently completed her M.S. in Counseling with a focus on Student Development in Higher Education at Cal State Long Beach. Her first day will be 1/22/18 – please stop by 143 HIB anytime to introduce yourself and say hello!

Staff Updates:

Robert Escalante, Department Manager, AfAm, AsianAm, G&SS: Robert was previously the Composition Program Manager in English and accepted the new manager's position in AfAm, AsianAm and G&SS. His new position started on 10/16/17.

Camille Laws, Finance and Schedule of Classes Coordinator, English: On 1/3/18, Camille assumed her new position in the Department of English as a coordinator. She previously served as the Composition Program Assistant.

Retirements:

Vicki Ruiz, Professor, History

Annette Schlichter, Associate Professor, Comparative Literature

Staff Holiday Event









Thank you Staff for everything you do for the School of Humanities!!

Communications

- **New resources**: in the Zotportal, under the Communications section of Humanities Internal, you will now find a sample year-of-events brochure and department events postcard under "Graphic Design Templates." A reminder that you will also find an event flier template & event feedback card template. To make access to Communications resources more user-friendly, Communications will launch its own website in the coming months.

- **Events digest**: the weekly events digest resumed Friday, 1/5. A reminder that the events digest pulls directly from the SOH calendar/content management system. If you would like to ensure your event receives sufficient publicity, please enter it at least two weeks in advance and be sure to select "Show this item on the School of Humanities main website"

- **Annual report**: in case you missed the SOH's annual report, covering research and noteworthy highlights for the year, please click here.

- We are consistently working on a number of stories related to faculty and graduate student research & awards, noteworthy alumni, and noteworthy SOH programmatic developments. Please continue to send me news about forthcoming book publications, awards received, noteworthy student research and projects, innovative courses and programmatic developments, etc.

- If you are faculty and would like to be a resource to journalists covering current and breaking news developments, please let me know what topic you would like to speak on and we can work together on an expert pitch to journalists or connect you with publications to produce an op-ed

Annabel Adams '06, M.A.
Director of Marketing & Communications

Undergrad Studies Update

Winter Quarter Dates and Deadlines:

January 19 (Friday of Week 2) – Deadline for Departments to complete Spring 2018 schedule proofing. Please see the Office of Undergrad Study's Schedule Checklist (http://www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/resources/SCHEDULE%20CHECKLIST.pdf) and the Faculty\Staff Resources page (http://www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/resources/schedule.php) for additional details and resources. Please also refer to Priscilla Nguyen's email on 10/27/17 (subject: S18: Department Build Phase Important Information) for additional details on the Spring 2018 schedule timeline.

January 19 (Friday of Week 2) – Deadline for undergraduate students to add and drop Winter quarter classes. Requests to add or drop that are submitted after this date are reviewed only in cases of extenuating circumstances outside a student's control. Please see the Undergrad Study website for complete details on this policy (http://www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/students/add_drop.php).

February 16 (Friday of Week 6) - Deadline for Humanities majors to change the grading option to Pass/No Pass. Please see the Undergrad Study website for complete details on this policy (http://www.humanities.uci.edu/undergrad/students/grade_opt.php).

Please refer to the Registrar's Quarterly Academic Calendar for all other important dates and deadlines.

The Office of Undergrad Study will be holding a **Staff Training session regarding curriculum** on March 22nd. Notification will go out prior to the event. The training will be led by Raschel Greenberg and Brittney Pinney.

Brittney Pinney, Director of Undergraduate Study

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Humanities Commons

The Forum for the Academy and the Public presents "American Identity and the Ideal of Democracy in the 21st Century" on February 9-10, 2018. The United States is facing a peculiar time in which it's unusually difficult to take stock of ourselves. If we had to say what underpins America today, if we were forced to choose our core beliefs or values as a nation, it's not clear that we could readily do so. Our keynote speaker and our panels, which comprise thinkers and visionaries from all over the world along with a diverse group of American experts, will focus on the many complicated ways to address and to answer the most important question of all: Who Do We Think We Are? The annual conference is an opportunity for the campus and local communities to engage in conversation about crucial issues facing our society today. The conference is free; pre-registration is recommended.

In cooperation with the School of Humanities and the Department of English, Illuminations is hosting an authors series to bring an exciting group of speakers to campus, including UCI MFA alums Charmaine Craig and Alice Sebold, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Colson Whitehead, and science fiction writer Ted Chiang. Thanks to our partnership with the UCI Libraries, most of these events will be preceded by a Book Club led by a Humanities faculty member. Book Clubs are aimed at staff and the community. They are held in the Southeast Asian Archives and start at 5:30 pm. This year's authors series has been carefully designed to support the curricular and co-curricular needs and interests of a range of courses in the School, including sections of composition and courses in fiction and literary journalism. We are also reaching out to alumni from the School of Humanities to invite them back to campus for these literary evenings.

Julia Lupton, jrlupton@uci.edu

Amanda Swain, ajswain@uci.edu

Advancement

Dear Staff & Faculty:

Thank you so much for the warm welcome. I'm genuinely thrilled to be here. A humanities education has shaped my life and values, and I'm passionate about the role of humanities research and education in helping our students become great communicators, better critical thinkers, and engaged global citizens. I have been at UCI for six years, and am well aware of the high caliber of work happening here at the School. I've been so pleased that so many of you want to partner with development. I'm seeing opportunities throughout the school to raise the level of support for the important work you're all doing.

It's an exciting time for philanthropy here at UCI, particularly at the School of Humanities. You may know that we are preparing to launch an ambitious campus-wide campaign. This will give us momentum as we raise support for humanities. My first objectives are to learn enough about your work so that our team can represent you well with donors. We'll also be developing a fundraising strategic plan for the School over the next few months.

If we haven't met, please stop by my office anytime. I'd love to learn what you're working on, thinking about, and reading. I'd also love to hear your feedback, questions, concerns and ideas about how we can raise more private support for the School. Or perhaps you're wondering how anyone could love fundraising as much as I do! Please stop by for a lively discussion. I'm looking forward to working with all of you.

Linda Haghi, Executive Director of Advancement

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949-824-2923

Humanities Studio and Computing

Humanities Studio Rentals (HH 269): Just a reminder that we have laptops, iPads, webcams, dongles, clickers and more for 1-day rentals … if you have anything you recommend us putting in our rental inventory please contact Dwayne Pack (dpack@uci.edu, (949) 824-5274)

Interested in Adobe Acrobat Pro, Microsoft Office or a Zoom license? Please contact Dwayne Pack (dpack@uci.edu, (949) 824-5274) for more information.

Canvas: Starting to move from EEE to Canvas and don't know where to start? Please contact Dwayne Pack (dpack@uci.edu, (949) 824-5274) for help.

Facilities

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