



Friday at the Center: February 11, 2005

University of Washington Undergraduate Symposium

SPU has been invited to send four undergraduate students to participate in the University of Washington's Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday, May 13, 2005, 12-5 PM. The Symposium includes poster and oral presentation sessions by students from all academic disciplines. All abstracts will be published in the Symposium Proceedings. Further information about the Symposium is available at <http://www.washington.edu/research/urp/symp/index.html>. Each department at SPU may nominate one student to be considered for one of these spots. Talk with your chair or dean about the selection process within your unit. These nominations are due in the Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development by **3 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 18**. The Final Four will be selected by a committee consisting of Bruce Congdon (sciences), Cindy Price (social sciences), and Susan Gallagher (arts and humanities).

Advising Notes

A few more suggestions regarding advising:

1. Talk about required exploratory courses as just that—courses that help one learn more about God's world of social structures, or works of art, or the role of science in our lives. Try to refrain from saying things like, "Do you want to get your natural science requirement out of the way?" or "Let's check that box off."
2. Encourage juniors to begin planning to do some kind of internship in the next year. Direct them toward the excellent resources in the Career Center for the wealth of internship opportunities available. Explain how internships often result in contacts or experiences that lead to eventual employment opportunities.
3. Have a box of Kleenex readily available. Don't be afraid to challenge first or even second-year students' assumptions regarding their vocational goals if the evidence (performance in specific courses) doesn't support their alleged calling.
4. As always, the friendly and responsive staff in Student Academic Services are there to assist. Their website, which includes alphabet assignments, contact information and photographs can be found at <http://www.spu.edu/depts/sas/uac.html> .

Using Evaluations to Improve your Teaching

I'm willing to attend any department meeting to discuss strategies for using the feedback from on-line evaluations to improve teaching and ways in which to read and interpret such evaluations. Please contact Marlene McCurley if you'd like to schedule such a meeting.

Upcoming February Events!

- "From Captive to Slave: Fungibility and Social Death," this year's Marston Lecture by Sandra Joshel, Ph.D., UW History Department. Thursday, Feb. 17, 7:30 p.m., DH 150.
- "Multicultural Approaches in the Classroom," an interdisciplinary discussion with Sharon Hartnett, Bill Rowley, Bill Purcell, Cher Edwards and Nyaradzo Mvududu. Thursday, Feb. 24, 12-1 p.m., Weter 201.

Happy Valentine's Day. Don't forget your sweetheart.

SUSAN

Susan VanZanten Gallagher
Professor of English
Director, Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development