



Friday at the Center: June 3, 2005

2006 NEH Summer Stipend Awards

The National Endowment for the Humanities offers summer stipends of \$5,000 to support research projects in the humanities, including languages, literature, linguistics, philosophy; comparative religions; ethics; history, and culture. Seattle Pacific can nominate two faculty members to be considered for this award: one must be a junior faculty member. If you are interested in being one of the SPU nominees for the 2006 competition, please contact me before August 1. Applications, which are done on-line, are due by **October 1, 2005**. A copy of the guidelines and application instructions can be found at <http://www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/stipends.html>.

Lilly Fellows Program Opportunities

September 15, 2005, is the deadline for applications to host a Lilly Fellows Program Regional Conference or Network Exchange. LFP Regional Conferences address issues in church-related higher education that may be common to a variety of faculty and leaders at such institutions. Two awards of up to \$10,000 are given annually to Network schools to plan and host such a program. The Network Exchange Program provides an opportunity for Network schools to showcase distinctive features of programs that highlight the Christian or church-related character of their institution. Each program involves participants from Network schools who visit the host institution for a period of 3-5 days. One Network Exchange Program is awarded each year with funding of \$20,000. The complete set of guidelines and applications for both programs are available at www.lillyfellows.org.

The Future of Capstones at SPU

All undergraduate faculty with an interest in the future of capstone courses at SPU are invited to a lunch on June 13, from 11-1, in Weter 201, to discuss the current status of our capstone curriculum. This will be the final event of the Hewlett Capstone Program, which has provided a faculty development training program for the capstone over the past three years. Department chairs, once and future teachers of capstones, and UPEC members are all urged to attend in order to brainstorm about how we might continue to work on the design of this significant component of the Common Curriculum. Any aspect of the capstone is open for discussion, but one particular topic that will be under consideration is the design and value of the Senior Reflection Paper. Please let Marlene McCurley (mccurley@spu.edu) know by **June 9**, if you plan to attend.

Evaluations, Surveys, Questionnaires Galore!

Stay tuned for the first Center for Scholarship and Faculty Development faculty survey, which will be arriving in your electronic inbox shortly. As the school deans, Les, and I work to design and

refine our faculty development programs, we need to hear from you! How should we spend the limited funds available for faculty development? How can we make a case for increased funds? What programs do you think are most needed? What currently works and what doesn't? You will have until July 1 to complete this survey on-line, but please don't forget to participate! In addition, those faculty who have participated in either the Social Mentoring or Senior Mentoring Program this year will receive a short (one page) evaluation form via campus mail. Once again, I plead for your input, even as you are pleading with your students to complete their on-line course evaluations.

Tips for Surviving Finals Week

Give yourself grading incentives—after reading ten papers, go for a walk, get a latte, go out to lunch. One faculty member I know reads a chapter of a novel after every seventh bluebook. Restrain yourself from writing comments on final papers and exams; few students pick them up anyway. Use those handy Excel sheets to compile your final course grades, and turn in your grades via Banner. (Double check that the right grade is recorded, though; those pull-down menus for grades can easily slip.) And give yourself the luxury of forgetting all about grading for seven hours on Monday as you enjoy hearing from Dr. William May, downing the luscious lunch at the Faculty Banquet, and celebrating next year's Weter Lecturer. See you Monday!



SUSAN

Susan VanZanten Gallagher
Professor of English