

Bard

Undergraduate Faculty Newsletter
Annandale, January 2019
Volume 14, Number 2

from the **Dean of the College**

Deirdre d'Albertis

Welcome back to snowy Annandale-on-Hudson and the start of what promises to be a busy and productive spring semester.

Distinguished Faculty who will be joining us this semester include: Research Associate in Written Arts **Valeria Luiselli** (Writer in Residence, starting fall 2019), Visiting Researcher in Human Rights **Ziad Abu-Rish**, and Visiting Assistant Professor of Theater and Performance/Guest Curator of the Live Arts Bard biennial **Tania El Khoury**. Nine new visiting faculty will also join us; the full list can be viewed on the Dean of the College website, <http://www.bard.edu/doc/recruitment/>, under *Faculty Appointments*.

Tenure-track searches ongoing this semester include: Chinese, economics, history, religion, literature, mathematics, music, philosophy, physics, and Director of Architectural Studies. I am pleased to announce that **Kerri-Ann Norton** (computer science) and **Richard Lopez** (psychology) will take up tenure-track appointments starting in the fall. Please watch for announcements of upcoming candidate talks. Special thanks are due to all faculty participating on search committees for the care and discernment with which they are undertaking this vital work.

FACULTY MEETINGS – Spring 2019

Faculty Meetings – 4:45 p.m., Multipurpose Room of Bertelsmann Campus Center

Wednesdays: January 30, March 13 (faculty-led), April 10, May 22

First and final meetings of the semester are followed by the President's Open House

Executive Committee – Wednesdays 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Ludlow 301

Curriculum Committee – Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Ludlow 301

Planning and Appointments Committee – Tuesdays 8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Ludlow 301

Faculty Senate Meetings – 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. on the following Tuesdays:

February 5, March 5, April 2, and May 7 (location TBA)

from the **Presidential Commission on the Curriculum**

This fall, President Botstein charged a group of Bard faculty to undertake a comprehensive review of our curriculum. The goal is to breathe new life into the idea and practice of the liberal arts.

The charge is to make recommendations on the reshaping of the curriculum with the intent of making Bard more distinctive and effective. The goals of this reshaping could include strengthening a shared common core; reconsidering specialized study at the undergraduate level as distinct from graduate training; rethinking the pre-moderation experience (especially with respect to program requirements); and fostering interdisciplinary curricula.

The Presidential Commission is eager to solicit feedback from the faculty at large. This spring we will host forum events around specific topics and we will also be sending a questionnaire to all members of the community (faculty and students) to aid us in this work. We invite input on any of the following: What are the strengths of the current curriculum? What are its weaknesses? What proposals might you suggest?

We welcome any written contributions/reports from individuals or programs, which can be submitted by replying to this email or by sending letters (authored or anonymous) addressed to "DOC: New Curriculum" via campus mail.

Thank you in advance for your collegial participation in this important endeavor,

Myra Armstead, Jonathan Becker, Katherine Boivin, Paul Cadden-Zimansky, Nicole Caso, Omar Cheta, Jean Churchill, Lauren Curtis, Jay Elliott, Mark Halsey, Felicia Keesing, Christopher LaFratta, An-My Le, Emily McLaughlin, Daniel Mendelsohn, Matthew Mutter, Phil Pardi, Miles Rodriguez, Olga Touloumi and co-chairs Deirdre d'Albertis/Eric Trudel

from the **Safety Committee**

Nicole van Zutphen

Bard's Campus Safety Committee is a cross-functional group that seeks to promote a healthy and safe living, learning, and working environment for the College community. As we begin the spring semester, we would like to highlight two items that will help us in our efforts to promote safety and security on campus.

- 1) 3D printing is an exciting technology that may also bring with it a range of safety concerns due to improper installation and operation. If you are currently using or seek to purchase 3D printers for use on campus, please coordinate with Randy Clum, Director of Buildings and Grounds (clum@bard.edu), and Steve Perog, Safety Coordinator (sperog@bard.edu), who can assist you with proper installation and safety protocols.
- 2) All drone flights on campus must be properly documented. Prior to flight, please submit a *Drone Planned Flight Request Form*, in addition to any forms required by the Federal Aviation Administration. The request form for operating drones on Bard College property can be found on the Office of Safety and Security website: <https://www.bard.edu/security/reports/>

We appreciate your help with contributing to the safety of our campus community. Wishing you all a healthy and productive semester.

Evaluation Letters are Due February 13

for Senior Faculty and Regular Renewals

If you would like to submit a letter to the evaluation file of a faculty member who is scheduled to be evaluated this semester, it should be signed and sent to the Dean of the College, Ludlow 203, or by e-mail to doc@bard.edu by **Wednesday, February 13**

Senior Evaluations

Long-term faculty are evaluated at regular intervals

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Felicia Keesing | SMC/Biology |
| James Romm | L&L/Classical Studies |
| Susan Merriam | ARTS/Art History |

Non-tenure-track Renewal

| | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Jeffrey Jurgens | SST/Anthropology |
| Robyn Smyth | SST/EUS |

*Senior evaluation testimony is reviewed by the director of the program, the divisional chair, the dean of the college, and the president.
Regular renewal testimony is read by the divisional evaluators, the division chair, the College Evaluation Committee (CEC), the associate dean of the college, and the president.*

**Faculty Seminar Series
Spring 2019**

Wednesday, February 13: Omar Cheta

Wednesday, March 13: Jean Churchill

Wednesday, April 10: Peter Klein

from the **Curriculum Committee**

Big Ideas: CALL FOR PROPOSALS

**The Curriculum Committee of Bard College invites
members of the faculty to submit proposals for a faculty-led general education initiative
*Fall 2019/ Spring 2020***

Big Ideas courses should be:

- committed to addressing concerns of contemporary significance,
- introductory in nature,
- team-taught and co-designed by two or more faculty members with expertise in distinct disciplines and preferably from two different divisions,
- focused on a problem or concern that actively engages student learning in more than one distribution area,
- and explicit in incorporating two different modes of learning.

Big Ideas courses are general education offerings carrying 6-8 credits and fulfill the requirements of two distribution areas. Class format is open and flexible. The goal is to create an educational experience that combines disciplines (and distribution requirement areas) in engaging the topic of the course. Class size will reflect the nature and demands of the course.

Students will be allowed to enroll in only one Big Ideas course per semester.

Big Ideas courses include a one-time, \$1500 allocation of funds per course for the purpose of course development and final course selection is subject to approval of the Dean of the College.

Deadline for Proposals to the Curriculum Committee: February 22, 2019

Proposals to the Curriculum Committee should specify course title, instructors, distribution areas, credit allocation (6 or 8 credits), days and times of class meetings, enrollment rationale, a course description, and a brief description on how the course aligns with the Big Ideas guidelines provided above.

For more information: contact Curriculum Committee Chair Rufus Muller (muller@bard.edu) and/or Associate Dean of the College Emily McLaughlin (mclaughl@bard.edu).

Big Ideas Courses offered Spring 2019:

*Games at Work: Participation, Procedure and Play (Keith O'Hara and Ben Coonley) MC/PA
Alchemy: From Magic to Science (Susan Aberth and Bruce Chilton) AA/MBV*

from the **Center for Faculty and Curricular Development (CFCD)** _____

Emily McLaughlin and Philip Pardi, Co-coordinators of CFCD
Laura Kunreuther and Dominique Townsend, CFCD Fellows

Center for Faculty and Curricular Development

Up-to-date schedule information can be found at <http://blogs.bard.edu/cfcd/>

Lightning Lunches

All lunches take place in the Faculty Dining Room

Week 1: Lecturing in the Digital Age

Tuesday, January 29, 12:00 - 1:00

Week 2: Interpreting Your CaFE Forms

Monday, February 4, 12:00 - 1:00

Thinking of Teaching a Big Ideas Course?

Wednesday, February 6: 12:00-1:30

Week 3: Student Presentations

Monday, February 11, 12:00 - 1:00

Week 4: Small Groups, Peer Review, and Reading Groups

Tuesday, February 19, 12:00 - 1:00

Week 5: Inclusive Pedagogy

Monday, February 25, 12:00 - 1:00

Week 6: Open Topic: Bring your questions, dilemmas, conundrums, or just join us for lunch.

Monday, March 4, 12:00 - 1:00

Reading Groups

Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in the Digital Age by Sherry Turkle

Tuesdays, 12:00 - 1:00 in weeks 2-6 (Feb. 5 through March 12) [*This group is now full*]

April Reading Group (meets for four weeks after spring break)

Details TBA

Other Events & Programming -- Coming Soon!

Faculty Research Groups have formed and will be meeting throughout the spring. The CFCD Common Room is available (but note it cannot be reserved).

Additional workshops and activities are still in the works, including our second “10-Day Writing Challenge” (February 18 - March 1), an event for faculty on public writing (March 28), a working session on inclusive pedagogy (date TBA), and our end-of-semester NCFDD event, “Every Summer Needs a Plan” (May). Additional details about all of these events are coming soon.

Celebrating Faculty Accomplishments

Sponsored by the Office of the Dean of the College

Please join us on **Wednesday, February 6th** for our first celebratory gathering of the spring semester, planned to honor notable accomplishments of faculty at the College.

Tim Davis (photography) and **Joseph O'Neill** (written arts) will be recognized for their latest work. Join us for a reception in the Faculty Common Room at 6:00 p.m., followed by presentations in Hegeman 204A from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

All are welcome and invited to attend!

As of Fall 2018, Bard College has become an institutional member of the National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity NCFDD. This membership is part of the College's commitment to the professional development and advancement of our faculty and the NCFDD is an independent faculty development center dedicated to supporting all academics in making successful transitions throughout their careers.

To claim your free Institutional Membership:

- 1) Go to <http://www.facultydiversity.org/join>
- 2) Choose your institution from the drop-down menu.
- 3) Select "Activate my Membership"
- 4) Complete the registration form using your institutional email address (i.e. @bard.edu)
- 5) Go to your institution email to find a confirmation/welcome email. Click "Activate Account" in the email. If you have any questions about the membership, please contact Associate Dean, Emily McLaughlin at mclaughl@bard.edu. If you have any technical questions, please email NCFDD at Membership@FacultyDiversity.org.



ATTENTION COLLEAGUES

WE ARE AN NCFDD INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER!

To activate your account, visit:

www.facultydiversity.org/join. Select our institution from the drop-down menu, click Activate Account, register using your institution email address, and enjoy!

For Spring 2019, NCFDD offers a community-based 14-Day Writing Challenge from **March 25 to April 7**. Here is an excerpt from their website:



The 14-Day Challenge is an opportunity for you to experiment with daily writing, online community, and supportive accountability:

- You commit to write every day for at least 30 minutes.
- At the beginning of your writing time, you login to our online community, start the timer, complete your writing, and post your progress at the end.
- You take 5 minutes to support other writers in your group by commenting on their progress.

The College recognizes that community support is a vital part of professional and personal growth, so we encourage all members of the faculty to participate!

This membership has been made possible through enthusiastic support from the Vice President for Academic Affairs, Vice President for Academic Inclusive Excellence, Dean of the College, Dean for Inclusive Excellence, Associate Dean of the College, and the Center for Faculty and Curricular Development (CFCD).

First-Year Seminar will present “Experiencing Zarathustra” in the Fisher Center on March 13, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. The Orchestra Now, led by music director Leon Botstein, will explore the relationship between Friedrich Nietzsche and music by giving a complete performance of Richard Strauss’s tone poem *Also Sprach Zarathustra*. This event is open to all members of the community.

from the **incoming co-directors of First-Year Seminar**

The incoming FYSEM co-directors—Omar Cheta, Lauren Curtis, and Daniel Mendelsohn—will be presenting their new incarnation of the course, to be titled “The Self in the World.” The course will focus on the theme of “private and public citizenship”: that is, how we define ourselves and both individuals and communities in relation (and sometimes opposition) to forces both interior and exterior, from psychology to history, from family to imperial politics. The aim of the course is to read deeply and slowly in eleven core texts that we define as “touchstones” of contemporary civilization—from Homer’s *Odyssey* (the model for “the self and the outside”) and Sophocles’ *Oedipus the King* (the model for “the self and the inside”) to Chinua Achebe’s *Things Fall Apart* and Toni Morrison’s *Beloved*. Core readings will be enhanced by companion texts from Sappho and Ovid to Marx and Freud. Regular Monday Forums will create a space for ongoing dialogue about questions of canonicity and inclusivity—and a space for film showings and performances!

Two sessions have been scheduled to present the proposed syllabus:

Tuesday, February 12th from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the Faculty Dining Room

Thursday, February 14th from 12:15 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. in the Olin Poetry Room

Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence

The Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence honors outstanding teachers who exemplify Bard College’s commitment to distinction in undergraduate liberal arts and sciences education. The annual award recognizes demonstrated intellectually rigorous and challenging teaching, creativity in course design and the application of innovative teaching concepts and methods, and energetic engagement within and outside of the classroom.

All full-time, tenured members of the faculty with at least five years of service are eligible for the annual award. Nominations are invited from students, faculty, and alumni. The selection is made by the president upon the recommendation of the dean of the college, the faculty fellows of the Center for Faculty and Curricular Development, and the prior recipient. The recipient receives an award of \$2500, which is announced at the final faculty meeting of the year. The 2018 award was given to Professor of Anthropology Yuka Suzuki.

Nominations by students, alumni/ae, and faculty for the 2019 awards will be accepted through March 15, 2019.

The nomination information form can be found on the the Dean of the College website at:

<http://www.bard.edu/doc/teaching/>.

Please contact the Office of the Dean of the College at doc@bard.edu with any questions.

The Michèle Dominy Award for Teaching Excellence was established in 2015 by the faculty and administration of the College to honor Professor Dominy’s fourteen years of service as dean of the college.

The 2019 Citizen Science program came to a successful completion on Friday, January 25th. Twenty-eight professors, including five Bard undergraduate faculty members, lead 480 students through the new science literacy curriculum focusing on *Water*. This curriculum was designed and written by a committee of faculty under the leadership of Professor Felicia Keesing and Phil Pardi. The 2019 students expressed very positive responses to the changes to Citizen Science, especially the option to select one of four lab strands: Research, Community Action, Communications and Education. Many thanks to Professors Brooke Jude, Michael Tibbetts and Matthew Deady for their work on developing this part of the new curriculum.

An exciting example of the type of work done within the Research strand was the water collection project. All 480 of the Citizen Science students were given a test tube to collect a fresh water sample from wherever they spent their end-of-year break. The Citizen Science students then supplied their location and (when possible) a picture of that location where the collection was made. Water samples were returned to the Citizen Science program and those samples were used in one of the Research labs. Those Research students were looking for Violacein producing microbes. The Bard Information Technology department created software that allowed these images and locations to be displayed on a world map. The map of the locations with the pictures the students provided, as well as petri dish images, can be viewed [by clicking here](#).

from the **Office of Development and Alumni/ae Affairs**

Welcome back from all of us across the road,

The Office of Alumni/ae Affairs just finished the seventh annual BardWorks program, which has benefited over 400 students and engaged more than 200 alumni/ae. A collaboration between Alumni/ae Affairs, the Career Development Office, the Center for Civic Engagement, and the Center for Student Life & Advising, this program highlights the breadth and success of the Bard alumni/ae network and gives students both confidence and connections. Please encourage all juniors and seniors to take advantage of this opportunity. The alumni/ae love meeting students.

In February, Bardians in Finance, a motivated and growing alumni/ae group, will host their sixth annual dinner in NYC, with guest George Keller. In April, Adam Conover '04, comedian and creator of Adam Ruins Everything, will be in conversation with Leon Botstein at an event in Los Angeles. Alumni/ae affinity groups are expanding to include Bardians in Law, Bardians in Tech, and Bard Chinese Alumni/ae. If you would like to help with any Bard alumni/ae groups, please let us know at alumni@bard.edu.

As usual, if you have any alumni/ae coming back to speak to your classes, please let us know in advance so we can welcome them.

New Campus Grants From OIS

Bard has been awarded \$300,000 to begin restoration of the resilience and integrity of Montgomery Place Mansion's exterior, as part of New York State's 2018 Regional Economic Development funding and the New York State Environmental Protection Fund.

The Bard Prison Initiative, partnering with Bennington College, has received a \$140,610 grant award from the National Science Foundation to strengthen and expand its computer science training programs.

The New York State Education Department (NYSED) has awarded \$687,185 to Bard to develop and implement a new Smart Scholars Program focusing on computer science at BHSEC Manhattan.

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded a \$2.5 million grant to the Consortium on Forced Migration, Displacement and Education, created by Bard, Vassar, Sarah Lawrence and Bennington Colleges to develop curricula and other programs on the issue of forced migration.

The Fisher Center has received a \$10,000 grant from the Arab Fund for Arts and Culture to support the Live Arts Bard Biennial, *How Can There Be a Window Where No Wall Remains?*, a program of artist commissions, public workshops,

conversations, and socially engaged performances created by artists from populations that are currently considered a threat to U.S. security.

The Institute for Writing & Thinking, with support from Bard's MAT program, has been awarded a \$20,000 Teaching with Primary Sources grant from the Library of Congress for "The World of the Poem: Teaching Poetry through Primary Sources," which will create a series of workshops for high school and college educators in the Hudson Valley.

The MBA in Sustainability program at Bard has won a competitive bid from the New York Power Authority (NYPA) to deliver an on-site, low-residency graduate business degree to a cohort of NYPA employees. Courses will be taught at NYPA's offices in White Plains one weekend a month and online two evenings a week.

Spring 2019 Completion Days

Completion Days are scheduled for **Wednesday, May 15 through Tuesday, May 21**. Faculty are free to design any sort of completion exercises they wish (presentations, papers, exams, etc.) during this time, but it is understood that no new major assignments or readings should be given as Completion Days are set aside for summative work. **Faculty are also urged to avoid scheduling outside speakers and events during the last three weeks of classes; all related expenses for such events will be charged to the next fiscal year, 2019-2020** These weeks should be reserved for presentation of student work, exhibitions, performances, and the like.

from the **Center for Civic Engagement**

Engaged Liberal Arts & Sciences

Engaged Liberal Arts and Sciences (ELAS), connects academic practices with real world application. Now entering its fourth year as a curricular focus in partnership with CCE, the program has introduced multiple new ELAS classes on the Annandale campus. Engaged liberal arts seeks to enhance learning and promote active citizenship through courses designed to connect the classroom with the community. Studies have shown that such approaches enhance student engagement and learning outcomes. Faculty submit course proposals that incorporate discipline-based reading and coursework with projects that consider local, national and international community needs through research, community organizing or action, and/or community projects.

ELAS course topics vary widely and include environmental, social, and cultural issues. "The Window at Montgomery Place," had students curate a historical exhibit at Red Hook Village Hall. The students presented an overview of the development of Montgomery Place from its beginnings as a nursery and working farm to its redesign as a pleasure ground for its elite residents and their peers. Special emphasis in the exhibit was given to the laborers who enabled the estate's business operations, maintained the landscape, tended to the house, served its inhabitants, and therefore facilitated the lifestyle of its owner-occupants as members of America's antebellum aristocracy.

Offered over the past three years, the "Women and Leadership" course engages students in exploring what it means to be a leader by participating in advocacy, service, apprenticeship and local campaigns. Students visit West Point, UN Women in NYC, and participate in a Women's Leadership Summit hosted by Bard College Simon's Rock, with students from Bard Annandale, Bard Microcollege Holyoke, Bard High School

Early College Queens and Bard College Simon's Rock. Members of each group also create an online magazine to share their work with each other.

To support the growth of ELAS classes, faculty participants each receive staff and course fellows support to handle logistical details of working with community partners, as well as a stipend for course development. Faculty are also provided professional development opportunities through the Bard Center for Faculty and Curricular Development and network luncheons to connect and discuss the expansion of the ELAS program with other Bard faculty and staff.

Spring 2019 Courses include:

- ANTH/GIS 224 – **A Lexicon of Migration** – Jeffrey Jurgens
- ANTH 239 – **Action Research: Social Service, Community Organizing, and Anthropology** – Gregory Morton
- ANTH 324 – **Doing Ethnography** – Yuka Suzuki
- ART 200 AC – **Digital II: Manufacturing Dissent** – Adriane Colburn
- ARTH 133 – **Interpreting Montgomery Place** – Aaron Ahlstrom
- BGIA 301 – **New York: Center of the World** – James Ketterer
- BIO 157 – **Food Microbiology** – Gabriel Perron
- EUS 102 – **Introduction to Environmental System Service** – Robyn Smyth
- EUS 218 – **Land** – Gidon Eshel
- EUS 221 – **Water** – Robyn Smyth
- EUS 223 – **Air Quality Research** – Elias Dueker
- EUS 317 – **Re-imagined Farms in Re-Imagined Spaces** – Katrina Light
- EUS 318 – **Land** – Gidon Eshel
- HIST 123 – **The Window at Montgomery Place** – Myra Armstead

To learn more about ELAS courses and resources
visit <https://cce.bard.edu/education/engaged-liberal-arts-sciences/>.

***a list of Faculty Highlights and Accomplishments is available as an addendum to this newsletter*

Please visit our website www.bard.edu/doc/
for numerous links and resources for faculty and staff

Faculty Handbook (hardcopies available upon request in the Dean's Office)
Faculty Highlights & Accomplishments past and present
Faculty, Divisional, Senate, and Program Meetings schedule
Faculty Committee meeting minutes
Faculty Meeting minutes
Faculty Evaluation lists and schedules
Faculty Committee List
Program Directors List
Faculty Search information
Faculty Transition List
Faculty Guidelines, Higher Education Resources and Support Network information
Bard Policies for Faculty

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This letter is intended by the Office of the Dean of the College to make information for faculty more accessible and available in an easy format. Where information is available on-line at our campus website

<http://www.bard.edu/doc>

you will be directed to that page. Please make use of the website; suggestions for posting of information and data are very welcome. The newsletters will be archived on the website. If you have questions or comments about this newsletter, please contact doc@bard.edu.