

To: Faculty colleagues
From: Strom Thacker, Dean of the Faculty
Re: Annual memo on faculty and academic program appointments and event dates
Date: July 2, 2018

I hope that your summer is off to a good start. As we bid Stephen and Judith Ainlay farewell and prepare to welcome David and Anne Harris, I'd like to pass along a few announcements and notes on the following topics.

- 2017-18 Faculty Activities Sheet & Triennial Merit Reviews
- Important dates for 2018-19
- Retirements and promotions
- Awards and endowed professor appointments
- Minerva Faculty Representatives for 2018-19
- Department chair, program director, academic program, and faculty director appointments
- Class Deans
- Dean of Studies

2017-18 Faculty Activities Sheet & Triennial Merit Reviews

The 2017-18 Faculty Activities Sheet and the Library Faculty Activities Sheet are available on the Policies and Forms webpage at

<https://www.union.edu/Academics/AcademicAffairs/PoliciesForms/>. The deadline for submission for all tenure-track faculty, lecturers, and library faculty is **October 1, 2018**.

Triennial merit review forms and cohort assignments are also available on the Policies & Forms web page.

Important dates for 2018-19

Here are some dates to hold on your calendar for the upcoming year. Please plan to attend and many thanks in advance for not scheduling meetings or events that conflict with these.

Note: because of its proximity in time to the presidential inauguration, there will be no Opening Convocation (which typically takes place the day before classes begin) this coming year. The Stillman Teaching Prize and Hollander Music Prize will be awarded at a later date.

- **September 7-8, 2018: President David Harris's Inauguration (details forthcoming from the President's Office and/or Communications)**
- **September 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.: Opening Faculty Meeting**
- **October, 2018 (exact date TBD): Feigenbaum Forum on Innovation & Creativity**
- **January, 2019 (exact date TBD): Common Curriculum Convocation**
- **February 21, 2019: Founders Day** (lunch at 11:45 am, ceremony at 1:00 pm)
- **May 10, 2019: Steinmetz Symposium** (classes are canceled)
- **June 13, 2019: End-of-year Faculty Celebration**
- **June 16, 2019: Commencement**

Retirements

Please join me in extending best wishes to members of the faculty who have retired in the past academic year:

Professor	Department
Donna Burton	Schaffer Library
Bruce Connolly	Schaffer Library
Felmon Davis	Philosophy
Ellen Foster	Economics
Harold Fried	Economics
Annette LeClair	Schaffer Library

Promotions

Congratulations to our colleagues who will be promoted by September 1, 2018:

Promotion to Full Professor	Department
Megan Ferry	Modern Languages & Literatures
David Gillikin	Geology
Daniel Mosquera	Modern Languages & Literatures

Promotion to Associate Professor with tenure	Department
Rogel Hoerl	Mathematics
Kim Plofker	Mathematics
Krisanna Scheiter	Philosophy

Promotion to Senior Lecturer	Department
Robert Bovard	Theater and Dance

Awards and endowed professor appointments

I am very pleased to announce the following appointments and awards:

Palmyra Catravas, Brate Advising Award, 2017-18

Jeffrey Corbin, Stillman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, 2017-18

Miryam Moutillet, Gustave L. Davis '59 and Susan S. Davis Director of Dance

Erika Nelson-Mukherjee, Byron A. Nichols Fellow for Faculty Development, 2018-20

Andrew Rapoff, Thomas J. Watson Sr. and Emma Watson Day Professor in Mechanical Engineering, 2018 - 2021

Heather Watson, John D. MacArthur Assistant Professor of Physics and Astronomy, 2018-2019

Peter Woodford, Dona and Marshall Robinson Assistant Professor in Science, Philosophy and Religion

Minerva Faculty Representatives for 2018-19

This year's Minerva Faculty Representatives are listed below. Please keep them in mind as sources of information if you would like to host events in the Minervas.

Beuth House:	Dianne McMullen
Breazzano House:	Kristin Bidoshi
Golub House:	Scott Kirkton
Green House:	Laura MacManus-Spencer
Messa House:	Kathleen LoGiudice
Sorum House:	Jennifer Matsue
Wold House:	Patricia Wareh

Department Chair and Program Director appointments

This year, we welcome the following chairs and directors who are starting new appointments:

- Andrea Foroughi, Chair, History (thanks to Joyce Madancy for her service)
- Seyfollah Maleki, Chair, Physics and Astronomy (thanks to Rebecca Koopmann for her service)
- Zoe Oxley, Chair, Political Science (thanks to Michele Angrist for her service)
- Andrew Rapoff, Chair, Mechanical Engineering (thanks to David Hodgson for his service)
- Steve Rice, Chair, Biology (thanks to Rob Lauzon for his service)
- Kristina Striegnitz, Chair, Computer Science (thanks to Aaron Cass for his service)

Faculty Director appointments

The following is a summary of part-time academic director appointments held by faculty members. Appointments are for up to three years in length and are potentially renewable.

Position	Director	Term expiration
Director of Assessment	Ashok Ramasubramanian	8/31/2021
Director of Engineering	Ashraf Ghaly	8/31/2019
Director of Faculty Development	David Cotter	6/30/2021
Director of General Education	Mark Walker	8/31/2021
Director of Interdisciplinary Programs	Stephen Romero	8/31/2019
Director of Undergraduate Research	Chad Orzel	6/30/2020

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the following directors for their service and accomplishments: Steve Schmidt as Director of Assessment, John Cramsie as Director of General Education, and Christine Henseler as Director of Faculty Development.

Class deans

Steve Leavitt and I are co-chairing an advisory search committee made up of faculty (Angrist, Cohen, Matsue and Spinelli), students and administrators that has interviewed a short list of candidates from a large and strong pool of applicants and is hosting finalists for the three class dean positions. We expect to have the full team in place by the start of the fall term. Stay tuned for more details once the search is complete.

Dean of Studies transition

Therese McCarty will serve as Interim Dean of Studies from September 1 to December 31, 2018, and Michele Angrist will take over as Dean of Studies effective January 1, 2019. Please join me in welcoming Therese and Michele to this important role and in thanking Mark Wunderlich for his six years in this role and decade-plus at Union.

Thank you all for another fulfilling year. I am grateful for all you do for the College, our students and each other to sustain this dynamic and welcoming academic community. I wish you all a productive and refreshing summer.