

THE BUZZ: Academic Success Weekly Newsletter



Fall Semester: Week 4 Issue

Highlights from this issue:

- **Shout Outs:** Kate Bohn-Gettler, Madey Israelson, Jennifer Meagher, Allison Spenader and Tony Yan
- **Events:** [Inauguration Week](#), Constitution Day (9/19), HMMI's ARC Speaker (9/20), SOT Speaker (9/21), Inauguration Ceremony (9/22), Talking Teaching Series (9/25), Clemens Lecture (9/25) and Thursday Forum (9/28)
- **Updates from:** Academic Advising and CSB and SJU Health Services, Research and Grants office and Center for Global Education

Inauguration Week: September 18 – 22, 2023

Reminder: Inauguration Ceremony procession

- **Regalia is required.**
- Line-up will be at **1:35 p.m. on Friday, September 22nd**.
- Meet at the line-up area on the sidewalk that runs between Stephen B. Humphrey Theater and Saint Mary Hall. Staff will be there to greet and assist you.
- The Ceremony Procession will be at 1:55 p.m. across the Abbey Plaza Lawn and into the Abbey and University Church.
- You will follow a marshal who will guide your seating.

Join in the many inauguration events happening this week. You can click [here](#) to view the full schedule. Join a "Hidden Spaces" tour, participate in an outdoor activity, celebrate the arts and join the hunt for the medallion. There is something for everyone!

CSB and SJU medical absence policy

An email was sent on Wednesday, September 19th from ACADEMICAFFAIRS@csbsju.edu with a message from CSB and SJU Health Services. The Health Services will not provide medical excuses for missed classes, exams or assignments. The policy is respectful of students, encourages a shared code of values, and promotes trust among students and faculty. Not asking students to obtain medical excuse notes also avoids the unnecessary and inconvenient process students would need to go through to obtain the excuse from our staff. **However, Academic Advising will issue a *Notification of Absence* when the office is notified by a member of the community**

that a student will be absent and is unable to communicate on their own behalf. Please read the email for more information.

Upcoming Events

TODAY: Constitution Day presentation, "Abraham Lincoln, Race, and the Constitution," with James Read, Political Science

5:00 – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, September 19, SJU Quad 346

Professor Read will describe the efforts of Lincoln and others to use the U.S. Constitution, despite its flaws, as an instrument to address the American community's greatest injustices. See the attached flyer for more details.

The ARC Speaker Series – HHMI Grant event

9:00 a.m., Wednesday, September 20, Zoom

The Center for the Advancement of Science Leadership & Culture's (CASLC) new speaker series, the ARC, welcomes filmmaker Thomas Allen Harris, for a discussion about his latest project, *My Mom, The Scientist*. For more information about the event, reach out to [Amanda Jantzer](#).

SOT Speaker: Fr. Juan Molina, President of the Mexican American Catholic College

7:00 p.m., Thursday, September 21, SJU Quad 264

Join the School of Theology and Seminary as they welcome Father Juan Molina, President of the Mexican American Catholic College (MACC) for a presentation on "*Living in a Diverse Community: Preferential Option for the Other.*" All are welcome!

CTL's Talking Teaching Series: *Designing Assignments in the Age of Generative AI*

3:00-4:00 p.m., Monday, September 25, CSB Gorecki 120

Facilitated by Laura Taylor, Center for Teaching and Learning, & Adam Konczewski, Instructional Technology Services

Based on faculty feedback from the Student Academic Success Workshop in August, this session invites faculty and staff to further explore ideas and considerations for designing class assignments that incorporate generative AI tools. No advance preparation required.

Clemens Lecture: *Inequality in Education* with Dr. Susan Dynarski, Harvard University

7:30 p.m., Monday, September 25, SJU Stephen B. Humphrey Theater

The event is free and open to the public. Click [here](#) to read more about Dr. Dynarski's experience and research. The lecture will also be live streamed on the [CSB and SJU website](#).

Thursday Forum: Working Across Institutions to Collectively Improve Inclusive Teaching and Learning

3:00-4:00 p.m., Thursday, September 28, CSB Gorecki President's Dining Room (PDR)

Presenters: *Amanda Macht Jantzer (Psychology), Kyhl Lyndgaard (Environmental Studies & The Writing Center), Deborah Pembleton (Global Business Leadership), Annette Raigoza (Chemistry), Jen Schaefer (Biology) & Laura Taylor (Theology & Center for Teaching & Learning)*

By collaborating across institutions of higher education, we can make more progress in alleviating the pressing diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and access (DEIJA) issues facing colleges and universities in

the United States than any one institution may be able to accomplish alone. This is the central premise of the Inclusive Excellence 3 Initiative, funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI). Together with over 100 other institutions, CSB and SJU is part of a learning community cluster, working closely with 15 other colleges and universities to address broad challenges in inclusive teaching and assessment. The work centers around three projects: 1) Evaluation of DEIJA Teaching and Learning, 2) Data-Informed Improvements of DEIJA Outcomes, and 3) Professional Development Programs for DEIJA Teaching and Learning. We will share our experience engaging with this broad network at a time when such efforts are under increasing attack nationally and faculty are reporting low morale. We will discuss how we can build upon past inclusion efforts and envision future opportunities for CSB and SJU faculty as we commence with this 6-year \$505,000 grant initiative.

Experience HUB

Center for Global Education (CGE)

CGE will hold the 2023 Study Abroad Fair from **2:00-5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 27th at CSB in Gorecki 204**. The Study Abroad Fair will allow students to connect with CGE staff, past and future faculty/program directors and students who are study abroad alums to explore a variety of study abroad options – semester & short-term embedded programs. Visit the [CGE website](#) for more information on the event and about all the study abroad options available to students.

The Research and Grants Office

Shout Outs

A shout out to **Tony Yan** in Global Business Leadership who recently published two articles with co-author Dr. Michael Hyman, "[Softly enhancing political legitimacy via Red Tourism](#)" in *Journal of Heritage Tourism* and "[The power of patriotic tourism in shaping political support](#)" in *The Academic*. Tony has been a prolific researcher with close to 60 publications, conference proceedings, papers, submitted manuscripts, and more over the past decade. His publications and research areas include business, marketing, data analytics, history, psychology, philosophy, sociology, political science, organizational behavior, and more. Congratulations, Tony!

Congratulations to **Kate Bohn-Gettler, Madey Israelson, Jennifer Meagher, and Allison Spenader** in the Education Department for receiving a two-year \$195,035 grant from the Minnesota Professional Educator Licensing and Standards Board's Collaborative Urban and Great Minnesota Educators of Color program to recruit and provide scholarships, mentoring, and supports to teacher candidates of color. Congrats Kate, Madey, Jennifer, and Allison!

Want to **Shout Out** your own achievements or raise up one of our colleagues? Submit a Shout Out [here](#) or find the link on the Research & Grants Office [page](#).

Apply for a Scholarship & Creative Work Award

Scholarship and Creative Work Awards enable full-time faculty to pursue scholarly research, writing and/or creative work by providing reassigned time from teaching one 4-credit course during the year of the award. Applications for 2024-2025 awards are **due at 5:00 p.m. on October 11th**. Visit the [Research and Grants Office website](#) to find the call, rubric, department chair approval & submission forms.

Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

Deadline to sign up for fall Communities of Practice (CoP) is *Wednesday, September 20th*:

Inclusive Pedagogies – click [here](#) to sign up

- This community of practice will explore practical, evidence-based strategies to support all students in the classroom through a discussion and exploration of [The Norton Guide to Equity-Minded Teaching](#) by Isis Artze-Vega, Flower Darby, Bryan Dewsbury, and Mays Imad (2023). Participants will receive a copy of this book.

Teaching in the Age of AI – click [here](#) to sign up

- Throughout the semester we will explore teaching in the age of AI. Depending on the interests of the group, possible topics include pedagogical strategies, benefits, pitfalls, and ethical considerations of using these tools in our classroom, assignment design, and so on.

The CTL offers a variety of services including classroom observations, individual consultations on teaching, and Small Group Analyses (SGAs). To learn more about these [services](#), visit the [CTL website](#).

Buzz on Campus

Check out the latest episode of **Johnnie Bennie Campus News** [here](#).

Congratulations to Jessie Bazan on recently being hired as the Associate Director of the Benedictine Institute! Jessie is currently serving as the Interim Director of Campus Ministry at Saint John's and will begin her role with BI on January 1st.

Fall Saturday Visit Day: Saturday, September 23rd

The Admission Office will welcome prospective students and their families to our two campuses for the first [Fall Saturday Visit Days](#) this weekend. Please extend your usual warm welcome and Benedictine Hospitality as you encounter our guests, as many of these students will be making their first college visit.

Phi Beta Kappa at CSB and SJU

Are you or have you ever been a member of Phi Beta Kappa? If so, check out the CSB and SJU chapter [here](#). Please email chapter secretary and treasurer, [Clark Cotton](#), for more information and/or to join the chapter.

QPLUS Safer Spaces Training: The Safer Spaces Trainings are open to faculty and staff, and give an opportunity for those on campus to become further informed about LGBTQ+ identities, allyship, intersectionality, and more. Those interested may email qplus@csbsju.edu with questions or fill out a request form [here](#).

More Information

Do you have information for The Buzz? If you have information you would like included in The Buzz please submit to this link: [The BUZZ information](#)

The Buzz can be found on the Academic Affairs website under related links.

<https://www.csbsju.edu/academic-affairs>



September 19th, 2023

Constitution Day

★ **CONTINENTAL CONGRESS BREAKFAST**
9-10 AM SIMONS 1

★ **NATIONAL VOTER REGISTRATION DAY WITH THE**
EUGENE J. MCCARTHY CENTER FOR PUBLIC
POLICY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
ALL DAY SIMONS 142

★ **PATRIOTIC POPSICLES ON THE MALL**
4-5PM OUTSIDE SIMONS FACING THE QUAD

★ **"ABRAHAM LINCOLN, RACE, AND THE**
CONSTITUTION." WITH DR. JIM READ
5-6 PM QUAD 346

Today the U.S. Constitution bans slavery and affirms equal protection of the law and voting rights for adult citizens of all races. But before 1865, the U.S. Constitution protected the institution of slavery, said nothing about racial equality, and left it to states to decide who had the right to vote. James Read will describe the efforts of Lincoln and others to use the U.S. Constitution, despite its flaws, as an instrument to address the American community's greatest injustices.

JAMES READ IS PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, AND AUTHOR
OF THE NEW BOOK SOVEREIGN OF FREE PEOPLE: ABRAHAM
LINCOLN, MAJORITY RULE, AND SLAVERY.

The Center for the Advancement of Science Leadership & Culture's (CASLC) new speaker series, **the ARC**, is officially launching on September 20.

Please join us and renowned filmmaker Thomas Allen Harris, for a discussion about his latest project, *My Mom, The Scientist*.

The film examines the untapped potential around Black participation in STEM fields through the story of his mother, Rudean Leinaeng, an early STEM education advocate and global activist for human rights. Thomas Allen Harris is an award-winning filmmaker and artist whose work across film, video, photography and performance illuminates the human condition and the search for identity, family, and spirituality.



Please register in advance at the Zoom link below and indicate on the registration form whether you will be attending in-person or virtually:

<https://hhmi.zoom.us/j/91914897551?pwd=RFJSTGc5Zm1rck9jdUVFbi9wZVd0QT09>

About the ARC Series:

The ARC series is designed as an information-sharing platform for the continuous progressive development of participants' knowledge, skills, and insight in Science, Leadership, and Culture. The series will focus on six broad topic areas: humanistic leadership, equity-centered workforce, human-centered science, labor issues, equity in STEM, and well-being and mental health.

We hope you can join us for this groundbreaking speaker and series!

On behalf of the ARC Committee:

Sherrice Allen, Shawn Bediako, Cleopatra Frazier, Danielle Heller, Melvina Lewis, Adrielle Munger, Susan Musante and Andrew Quon

the **ARC** series

From: Academic Affairs <ACADEMICAFFAIRS@csbsju.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 1:08 PM

Subject: Important Message from CSB & SJU Health Services

COLLEGE OF
Saint Benedict  **Saint John's**
UNIVERSITY

Academic Affairs

Message from CSB & SJU Health Services

Dear Faculty Members,

I am writing to provide information about the College of Saint Benedict and St. John's University Health Services medical excuse policy. The Health Services will not provide medical excuses for missed classes, exams, or assignments.

Our intent with this policy is to support and encourage dialogue between the student and faculty member regarding the student's circumstances for missing classes, exams, or assignments. Our policy is similar to that of other college and university health services and is endorsed by the Office of the Provost. It is respectful of students, encourages a shared code of values, and promotes trust among students and faculty. Not asking students to obtain medical excuse notes also avoids the unnecessary and inconvenient process students would need to go through to obtain the excuse from our staff.

This policy allows CSB & SJU Student Health Services to focus on our primary task of attending to students' health concerns and recognizes that at times students will miss classes with illnesses that do not require an office visit with our providers. Students also learn appropriate use of health care resources as they prepare to emerge from their college years as ethical adults and purposeful citizens of the world.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Sincerely,

Emily Rath, APRN, CNP
Nurse Practitioner
Executive Director of CSB|SJU Well-Being Center