Dear Colleagues:

I hope you had a restful and enjoyable spring break and are now ready for the challenges of the second half of the semester. Some information you might find of interest:

**DANIEL CAINE WINS PRESTIGIOUS TEACHING AWARD**
Daniel Caine, graduate assistant in the Department of English is the recipient of the 2014 Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools’ Excellence in Teaching Award. This is a very prestigious award that is presented to one master’s level and one doctoral-level graduate student each year. Dr. Nan Yancey, Dean of Graduate Studies of Lewis University commented in Daniel’s award letter that his “outstanding application, evaluations, video and support letters demonstrate that you are exemplary in your teaching. The committee was particularly impressed with your innovation in teaching, as evidenced in your portfolio materials and video.” As a recipient of the award, Dan will receive an honorarium and will speak at the MAGS Annual Conference’s award luncheon on April 10 in Chicago.

**STUDENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**Daniel Dlugos** (Biology) has been accepted to PhD programs in Plant Pathology at Virginia Tech, North Carolina State University, and University of Florida.

**Julie Ziemba** (Biology) has been awarded a two-year, $6000 grant from the Geauga Park District. The grant is entitled “Investigation of an invasive Asian earthworm (Amynthas) in northeastern Ohio and its impacts on the body condition and behavior of an important forest floor amphibian.

**Inger Barnes** (Education) completed all of the requirements for the M.Ed. with a specialization in Literacy and graduated in January 2014 (Inger was mistakenly left off of the list of Winter graduates in the January Notes).

**Coreen Schaefer** (Education) was recently named Dean of Students at Beaumont High School.

**Shannon Sullivan** (School Psychology) co-authored an article entitled *A Small-Scale Study of the Effects of Supplemental Vocabulary Instruction on Preschoolers with Vocabulary Delays* with Kathleen Roskos and K. Burnstein in Creative Education (4, 15-22).

**Emily Gray** (School Psychology, G’13) co-authored an article with Kathleen Roskos, Yi Shang and K. Burnstein in Sage Open (Jan/Mar, 1-9). The article is entitled *Young Children’s Engagement With E-Books at School: Does Device Matter?*

**SUMMER FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY**
Changing Our World provides summer fellowships to highly motivated graduate students currently enrolled in accredited programs of business, international studies, public policy, social sciences and related disciplines. This competitive program aims to contribute to the development of future leaders in the public, philanthropic, and nonprofit sectors, and, as an investment, advance the capacity of nonprofits and social enterprise organizations globally.

The purpose of the 2014 fellowship project is to examine how changes within the U.S. have affected religious giving, religious institutions financially, and their revenue strategies. This analysis will require quantitative research as well as an in-depth look into the qualitative implications for philanthropy among religious institutions. Key topics of interest include the demographic and religious affiliation trends of Americans, the distribution and consolidation trends among religious nonprofits, and the little recognized community impact of religious institutions. Fellows are selected on the basis of the following criteria:

- Academic achievement
- Creativity of methodology used to address the selected fellowship topic
• Excellent research and leadership skills
• Demonstrated civic engagement
• Commitment to philanthropic and/or nonprofit scholarship

This fellowship takes place in New York City for 10 weeks. Applications are due March 15, 2014. The stipend is $8000. Email me for more information.

CELEBRATION OF SCHOLARSHIP
John Carroll University’s annual Celebration of Scholarship takes place next month, April 7-10. A number of our graduate students will be presenting this year from English, Education, School Psychology, and Counseling. If time permits, please join the celebration and support our graduate students. A complete schedule of events and presentations can be found at http://sites.jcu.edu/celebration/pages/2014-schedule/.

A POETRY READING BY Simon Armitage
Simon Armitage, a pre-eminent poet, playwright, novelist, musician, and multi-media performer from West Yorkshire, England, will perform his work on Monday, April 7, 2014, at 7:00pm in the Dolan Science Center, Donahue Auditorium. This is a free event open to the public, courtesy of the Hopkins Program. For more information contact Dr. Brian Macaskill at bmacaskill@jcu.edu or visit sites.google.com/site/simonarmitage2014.

THESIS/ESSAY/PROJECT DEADLINE
Students who are planning to graduate in May 2014, you are reminded that if you are required to complete a thesis/essay/or creative project in partial fulfillment of your degree, the deadline for submission to the Office of Graduate Studies is Monday, April 7. This is a firm deadline. Students who will not complete the requirement but wish to walk in commencement will be required to submit a letter of confirmation from the department chair verifying that he or she has seen the work in progress and that it can be completed by the July deadline for summer graduation.

GRADUATION DEADLINES
If you submitted an application for spring 2014 graduation, you should have received a graduation audit from the Office of Graduate Studies indicating your current status. If you have not received the audit, please contact Terry Bradley (tbradley@jcu.edu).

The deadline for Summer 2014 graduation was February 15. If you did not meet that deadline you may still submit an application, however, there will be a late fee added to your account.

The deadline for Winter 2015 graduation is July 14, 2014.

SUMMER SCHOOL
Registration for Summer School 2014 opens on Wednesday, March 19. You can visit the summer school website to check the summer schedule and to view the offerings.

IMPORTANT DATES
March 19     Summer School registration begins
March 31     Fall registration begins
April 7      Thesis/Essay/Projects due in Office of Graduate Studies
April 14     Deadline for submission of comprehensive examination grades for spring graduation
April 15     Deadline to withdraw from spring classes
April 16     Easter break begins after last class
April 22     Classes resume; Monday classes meet
As we continue our academic year, if there is anything I can do for you, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you have any news to include in April’s Notes, please send it to me when time permits. Best wishes for a wonderful spring!

Sincerely,

Mark Storz, Ph.D.
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