

Faculty Center Newsletter

Parenzo 215

Winter 2006, No. 16

New Faculty, April 12
for 1st year and 2nd year Faculty

(1) **Next Mentoring lunch**, Wed., April 12, 11:45a - 1:15p, Faculty Center (P215).

Faculty Center Focus Series:
Free Speech in Current Life

Faculty Panel

Thursday, March 23, 3:40p, Wilson Auditorium C

Watch for more information

Coffee & Donuts

This Spring and next Fall, coffee and conversation with colleagues will again be available in the Faculty Center from 9:00am to noon on Wednesdays.

1) Already, February 22, the library's new director, Cathy Doyle, and reference librarians Oliver Zeff and David Podboy were on hand from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Faculty Center.

Other coffee hours scheduled:

2) March 22, the Counseling Center
3) May 10, the President's Office will sponsor coffee hours in the Center.

If your office, program, or department would like to sponsor a particular Wednesday coffee as a way of introducing more faculty to your activities, please use the "sign-up sheet" in the Faculty Center. More information from Kathy Itterly, ex. 8054 or Emily Todd, ex. 5337.

We are always looking for...

Publications, art work, and other expressions of faculty professional activities for display and review in Parenzo 215, the Faculty Center. If you would like to share materials, or make suggestions about how to make them more widely accessible to the faculty, send materials to Melissa Roti <mroti@wsc.ma.edu>x 5665) and share your ideas with any of us.

Brown Bag Lunches
watch for email/Webpage updates

3) *Forever Touched*

Discussion leaders

Phil Hotchkiss, Kathy Itterly,
Stephanie Kelly, & Catherine Lilly,
Tuesday, Feb. 28, 12:45a - 1:45p

More information soon on:

4) *Gender Dynamics in the Classroom*
Elizabeth Stassinis and others
Wednesday, March 22, 1:00p

5) *The Cherry Orchard*
Discussion of S06 campus play
with Jack Shea, likely week of 4/3

6) *Helicopter Parents*
likely week of 4/17

completed:

1) *You Are Not Alone*
Tuesday, January 24

2) *How to Make Group Projects Work*
Thursday, Feb 9

Faculty Center Workshops

- completed -

Make a Difference: Be a Mentor
Thursday, Feb 23, 4:00-5:30pm
Media Services, Parenzo 05

For Fall 2006

Proposing Lunch Topics

Topics can be wide-ranging in terms of the mission statement and of interest to faculty. Anyone proposing a session can organize other professors or staff to attend and share their ideas and observations informally, open with brief prepared remarks, or simply allow discussion to proceed from the topic.

More details available from committee members. Sessions usually rotate among mid-week days during mid-day (11:30a to 1:45p).

Fac Center Year-End Party

Weds. May 17, noon, Parenzo 215

- same day senior grades due at 2:00p

The Faculty Center

The Faculty Center promotes discussion of and reflection on our faculty's ideas and concerns about teaching, learning, scholarship, and the profession. The Center seeks to foster a community that celebrates both the diversity of individual fields of study and the unity of academic inquiry.

The Faculty Center (Parenzo 215) is open every weekday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Please feel free any time to check our resources on pedagogy and the profession. We have a growing library of books on teaching and learning, a subscription to *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, handouts from previous brown bag lunch discussions, and a sample of WSC faculty promotion and tenure materials. You're also welcome to use the Faculty Center as a retreat from your office: you'll find sofas and comfortable chairs, a microwave, a coffee maker, and bottled water. We're eager to see more professors use the space, so please let us know if you have any suggestions for what you'd like in the Faculty Center.

Web Page

A WEB page for Faculty Center events is available at the WSC.edu site. Archives of reports on FC events published in the Newsletter, along with useful links to other sites are already there. Further suggestions: Melissa Roti or Corinne Ebbs.

Faculty Center Committee

Corinne Ebbs (ex. 5464)
Ricki Kantrowitz (5378)
Kathleen Itterly (8054)
Jack Loughney, *editor* (5362)
Marsha Marotta (on leave 05-06)
Tom Masterson (5742)
Katy Milford (8140)
Tim Parshall (5303)
Melissa Roti (5665)
Diana Schwartz (5298)
Emily Todd, *chair* (5337)

Susan Leggett, *mentoring* (5238)
each also via email @wsc.ma.edu

Westfield State College

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2.24.2006

**Next Brown Bag Lunch
Topic**

Forever Touched

February 28, 12:45a, P215

The Faculty Center's next lunch discussion will be led by colleagues who have visited and worked in the Gulf States over the past several months.

Come to this Brown Bag Lunch to hear from colleagues who have visited the Gulf States over the past few months. This is an opportunity to learn about the the challenges and the obstacles that are facing the many people who have had their lives changed as a result of the natural disaster. Life will never be the same for those who survived last year's devastating hurricane season. In addition, first responders and volunteers have described being "forever touched" by their experiences.

Our speakers will discuss what they saw, as well as how the experience has affected them. Our conversation facilitators, Phil Hotchkiss, Kathy Itterly, Stephanie Kelly, and Catherine Lilly hope you will join them for this informative and personal presentation/conversation. We also welcome you to share your stories on this topic.

Faculty Center Focus
Series

More on Free Speech

*Call for participants
Fall 2006 Events*

In a few weeks, faculty from various departments will present an afternoon Focus panel on their thinking, teaching and research about free speech. This March 23rd event is advertised on the front page.

If you care about or, especially, teach or research First Amendment issues, and you would like to be involved (and perhaps involve your students), please contact Jack Loughney. Our March 23rd event arose from the informal exchanges Elizabeth Stassinis coordinated for many faculty on "Free Speech topics" over the past year, including summer 2005's informal conversations in Northampton. (x 5362, <jloughney@wsc.ma.edu>)

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