

The Academic Bulletin

from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College
Friday, February 6, 2009

Introduction

WE'RE BACK! Last spring saw the launch of the Academic Bulletin, a weekly, online communication from the Office of the Provost. This fall our office simply was not able to maintain production of this bulletin, but we knew help was coming. With the rearrangement of positions in the Office of the Provost and the move of Steve Kline into a half-time assignment to work on governance and communication, we are able to resume publication.

We will once again include these kinds of items in the Bulletin:

- Short conversation starters that don't quite fit in Calvin-news or *Chimes*
- Short article or book suggestions about the practices of higher education
- Announcements about faculty development opportunities
- Announcements about lectures, visiting scholars, and new faculty

Submissions are welcome and should be sent to Steve Kline (skline@calvin.edu) by Wednesday evening; please include all relevant information so that we can meet our publishing deadline of Friday morning.

Celebrate!

Please join our faculty colleagues and the Board of Trustees at the Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching Dinner on Thursday, February 19. This is a time to spend an evening together celebrating our faculty's commitment to outstanding education.

Remember to send your RSVP to Sharolyn Christians in the Office of the President by Thursday, February 12. If you have misplaced your invitation or prefer to RSVP via e-mail, please contact Sharolyn at chrish@calvin.edu.

Welcome to New Faculty

With the start of the spring semester, two new faculty colleagues arrived on campus.

Irene Kraegel joins the Broene Counseling Center as counselor for a two-year term. Dr. Kraegel, a graduate of Wheaton College, received her Psy.D. from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology and most recently has operated an independent private practice for approximately the past four years. She has also lived in Uganda, where she studied the impact of rape trauma on Ugandan woman and attitudes and practices related to family planning methods in the Mulago community.

Samuel Schoofs joins the Department of Engineering in a one-year appointment. A 2004 graduate of Calvin's engineering program, Mr. Schoofs received his M.S. degree from Georgia

Tech, during which time he also studied and interned in France, and has worked in the medical electronics industry for the past several years. He will be teaching courses in electrical and computer engineering.

This Week on Campus

Monday, February 9

- Faculty forum: Reformed Identity and Mission. 3:30 p.m., NH 078

Tuesday, February 10

- Farewell Reception for Tom McWhertor. 3:30 p.m., Spoelhof Center Atrium
- Environmental Stewardship Coalition lecture: "An American Icon." 4:30 p.m., Meeter Center Lecture Hall

Wednesday, February 11

- Black History Month lecture: "Coy Davis presents: Whatever Happened to Idlewild?" 3:00 p.m., Commons Lecture Hall

Thursday, February 12

- Deadline for sending RSVP to Sharolyn Christians for the Presidential Award for Exemplary Teaching dinner (Thursday, February 19, 5:30 p.m., Prince Conference Center Great Hall)

Friday, February 13

- Fridays at Calvin
- Art faculty exhibition, opening reception. 7:00 p.m., Spoelhof Center Art Gallery

Faculty Development Opportunities

Like all colleges, Calvin advertises itself as a place where students will be engaged, challenged, and transformed. But is that what first-year students are really seeking when they set off to school? Tym Clydesdale, associate professor of sociology at the College of New Jersey, has published his research into this question in his book *The First Year Out: Understanding American Teens after High School* (University of Chicago Press, 2007). Of particular concern to Clydesdale, a graduate of Wheaton College, is how first-year students handle their religious commitments when they arrive at college. For more on his research, visit his Web site, <http://www.tcnj.edu/~clydesda/>. You may have seen his recent article in the *Chronicle*, "Wake up and Smell the New Epistemology," copies of which are available from Paul Sytsema.

On Thursday, February 19, Clydesdale will visit Calvin to discuss his research and what his findings suggest for teaching first-year students in a lecture entitled, "Teaching, Faith, and the New Epistemology". All are invited to his lecture on this topic at 3:30 p.m. in the Commons Lecture Hall.