

The Academic Bulletin

from the Office of the Provost of Calvin College
Friday, May 8, 2009

“When I Am among the Trees”

When I am among the trees,
especially the willows and the honey locust,
equally the beech, the oaks and the pines,
they give off such hints of gladness.
I would almost say that they save me, and daily.

I am so distant from the hope of myself,
in which I have goodness, and discernment,
and never hurry through the world
but walk slowly, and bow often.

Around me the trees stir in their leaves
and call out, “Stay awhile.”
The light flows from their branches.

And they call again, “It’s simple,” they say,
“and you too have come
into the world to do this, to go easy, to be filled
with light, and to shine.”

From *Thirst: Poems by Mary Oliver* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2006), 4.

Welcome to New Faculty

Martin Carrión joins the Spanish Department this fall as visiting instructor. Mr. Carrión is completing his PhD at Johns Hopkins University this spring, concentrating in colonial Latin American literature. He holds degrees and diplomas from Johns Hopkins in international relations, economics, international economics, and public policy. Greetings may be sent to carrion@jhu.edu.

The newly formed Congregational and Ministry Studies Department announces **Todd Cioffi** as its first assistant professor, serving in a three-year appointment. Dr. Cioffi received his BA from Hope College and his MDiv and PhD (systematic theology) from Princeton Theological Seminary; he is currently ordained as a minister of the word and sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Notes of welcome may be sent to tcioffi@whitworth.edu.

Victor Norman will begin a three-year, tenure-track appointment as assistant professor in the Computer Science Department, bringing experience in programming and computer networks. Victor received his BA from Calvin College and his PhD from Purdue University, and has fifteen years of experience as a network software engineer at Marconi Communications/FORE Systems. Currently, he is adjunct professor of computer science at La Roche College (Pittsburgh, PA). E-mails can be sent to vic.norman@gmail.com.

Spring Tribute Dinner RSVP

If you received an invitation to the spring tribute dinner (on Thursday, May 21, 5:30, Prince Conference Center Great Hall) and are planning to attend but have not yet replied, the deadline is **Thursday, May 14**. If you are unable to locate the invitation, please contact Sharolyn Christians via e-mail (chrish@calvin.edu) to reserve your place; if you have sent in your RSVP but your plans have changed, please inform her.

Celebration of Faculty Scholarship

The various centers and institutes at Calvin College are planning to host the third annual Celebration of Faculty Scholarship to recognize those who have achieved some significant scholarly accomplishment (e.g., the publication of a book, the publication of an article in a peer-reviewed journal, the awarding of a major grant, or something else that may reflect an important scholarly accomplishment within a particular discipline) during the past year (June 2008–May 2009). This year's Celebration of Faculty Scholarship will take place on **Friday, May 22**, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., in the new Spoelhof Fieldhouse Complex. Refreshments will be available throughout.

Reception for Retiring Deans

Dean Ward and **Janel Curry** are completing their terms of service as academic dean and dean for research and scholarship (respectively). The college community is invited to a reception to thank them for their outstanding service and to wish them well in their future endeavors:

Thursday, May 21, 2009, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Chapel Undercroft

NEH Summer Stipends

The National Endowment for the Humanities is again preparing for its \$6,000 Summer Stipends competition. To see the guidelines and application instructions, visit the NEH Web site at www.neh.gov/grants/guidelines/stipends.html. Because Calvin may only nominate two faculty members to the program, you will need to submit a one-page concept paper to Janel Curry (jcurry@calvin.edu, cc: grants@calvin.edu) **by June 15** that outlines your proposed project. For more information, please contact Janel (x6-6869) or Lois Konyndyk (x6-8524).

Next Week on Campus

Tuesday, May 12

- Nagel Institute lecture: Melba Padilla Maggay (Institute for Studies in Asian Church and Culture), "Persistent Old Gods: Protestant Missions and Filipino Religious Consciousness." 3:30 p.m., Meeter Center lecture hall