

FDC HAPPENINGS

September 26, 2022



A sheet displaying a variety of charts is at the center of the photo, with a laptop to the left and a hand holding a pen over a notebook to the right.

Internal Research Awards

October 6, 24, 25
3:30pm, 109 Halle*

Are grant proposal rejections getting you down? Eighty percent of faculty who come to these sessions receive the award, because they get up-to-date information on writing a successful proposal and get important feedback on how their proposals will be reviewed. Natalie Dove (Department of Psychology) and Alexis Braun Marks (University Archivist) will lead these workshops.

Our first series of presentations focuses on the Summer Research Award (application due October 31st). The first of these sessions will take place on October 6th and will focus on the application process, strategies for writing a proposal, and details of guidelines. The final two sessions will be workshops, where you can get individualized feedback on your application. Learn more about the workshops or register [here](#).

*Zoom will be available for the October 6 session.

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CAMPUS HIGHLIGHTS: LUNCH AND LEARN WORKSHOPS

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The Office of Research Development and Administration (ORDA) and the Office of Graduate Studies and Research is holding a series of workshops and presentations called "Lunch and Learn." These events are all virtual and will take place from 12:00pm-1:00pm on the dates provided below.

From ORDA

These workshops and presentations focus on topics specific to faculty and graduate students' research and teaching. We highly recommend these as great workshops for both faculty and graduate students to attend.



A person attends a virtual meeting with three others visible on the computer screen.

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

- Friday, October 7: Grant Basics: The "101" of How ORDA Can Help (Facilitated by Dr. Erica Goff)
- Friday, November 4: How to DO Human Subjects Research Without Getting in Trouble (Facilitated by Dr. Sonia Chawla)
- Thursday, November 10: Budget Basics (Facilitated by Scott Teasdale)
- Tuesday, November 15: Using NVivo: Software for Qualitative Research (Facilitated by Dr. Kevin Karpiak)

Visit [this page](#) for a full list of events.

Please register [here](#). After registration you will receive a calendar invite with a Zoom Link for your session(s).

Please contact graduate_school@emich.edu with any questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

READING IN
PRINT?

scan the QR code to
access the links in
this issue



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Meaningful Conversations: Facilitating Empathic Listening and Mindful Expression

*September 30,
9 am- 1 pm, 300 Halle*

Join us for this workshop to learn specific and practical communication tools based on Nonviolent Communication (NVC) in order to support an open, inclusive, and respectful classroom environment. This workshop will be led by Dr. Paula Willoquet and Jenny Kindred. Learn more [here](#).

This learning community is based on an NSF-funded free 6-week asynchronous online class for college instructors, the Inclusive STEM Teaching Project (ISTP). It is designed to advance ability and awareness for cultivating inclusive STEM learning environments. The free online course opens on Monday, October 3 and closes Tuesday, November 22. The EMU Learning Community dates are on each Friday at 9 AM from October 7-November 11, on Zoom. For more information, or to apply, visit [here](#).

Inclusive STEM Teaching at EMU Learning Community

*Applications due
September 30, 10:00am*

Facilitated by Lynn Bahena, Debbie Ingram, and Andrew Ross from the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Understanding the Impact of Racial Microaggressions and Strategies for Responding

*October 28 at Noon
& November 9 at
2:00pm
109 Halle and Zoom*

The series of two workshops will provide examples of common microaggressions in faculty-student interactions and their impact on students' sense of belonging, engagement, and overall success in institutions of higher education. The workshop will also address the impact of microaggressions on BIPOC faculty and will provide resources for effectively responding to and mitigating the negative effects of racial microaggressions. For more information, click [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Research Writer's Collaborative

Every Thursday
1:30pm-3:30pm
via [Zoom](#)

The Writers' Collaborative is an opportunity for EMU faculty to support each other while achieving realistic writing goals (i.e. developing a conference paper, drafting an article, revising a book chapter, etc.). This community also provides an opportunity for participants to give and receive helpful feedback on their writing as well. Drop in and join us! For more information, visit [here](#).

WELLNESS INITIATIVES

Faculty Support Group

Every other Monday,
11 am (starting
October 3)
109 Halle Library

The FDC would like to invite you to join us for a chance to sit and talk to others about any struggles that you might face. Sessions facilitated by Dr. Quentin Hunter. Learn more [here](#).

The FDC and the Office of Wellness and Community Responsibility are looking to fund mini-grants of up to \$250 for innovations surrounding student wellness. Learn more [here](#).

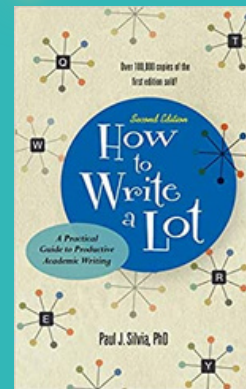
Student Wellness Mini-Grants

Applications due
October 13, 5 pm

SPOTLIGHTS

This week's book spotlight features *How to Write a Lot* by Dr. Paul J. Silvia. In this book, Silvia offers fresh advice to help you overcome barriers to writing and use your time more productively. Silvia explains how to write, submit, and revise academic work without sacrificing evenings, weekends, and vacations. We have extra copies of this book in our library; come to 109 Halle to pick up your copy today!

Click [here](#) to read the full spotlight or to check out this book, or others, from our library.



Dr. Amanda Stype Assistant Professor Economics

In her teaching spotlight, Dr. Amanda Stype talks about the experience that made her fall in love with teaching, and how she incorporates lessons from different fields into her lessons to show students the importance of economics beyond the classroom. To read more about Dr. Stype and her teaching philosophies, read the full spotlight [here](#).

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Every March there is a particular evening that sneaks up on me, which is quite ridiculous seeing as this evening has been part of my EMU experience for over 15 years.

On what most is often the final Thursday of the month, I find myself walking the Student Center, most of the rooms dark, the hallways quiet. I check signage, make sure doors are locked, poster display boards are in place, and podiums are positioned correctly. It is the final preparations for the annual Undergraduate Symposium, and on these nights, I find myself in awe of the academic excellence we showcase each year.

The hallmark of the Symposium is faculty mentorship, which guides students to and through their research and creative projects. As we look forward to another year of possible partnerships, I wanted to take time

By Amy Bearinger

to highlight the value I've seen in these student-mentor relationships in my role as event coordinator.

Envisioned by former Provost Ronald W. Collins, and under the leadership of Ira M. Wheatley from the Department of History and Philosophy, the first annual Undergraduate Symposium was held April 3, 1981. Seventeen students and 19 faculty members from nine College of Arts and Sciences departments were featured. Since this time, the College of Art and Sciences has hosted over 8,800 students at the annual event.

A unique feature of this celebration is that while it is hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Symposium is open to all disciplines, all majors. This rich variety of content, presented in either oral, poster, or art expo formats, highlights the impact of the purposeful connections between faculty and students across the university. Allow me to reflect on the importance of these connections with a trip down memory lane...

One of my first years working the Symposium, as an assistant, I was tasked with setting up a photo station so that students and faculty could get their photo taken together. Ever the millennial, I wondered why they wouldn't just use their phones. I quickly realized this photo opportunity was much more than a quick memory of the event. It provided a moment to capture the unique, collaborative, and supportive working relationships these folks. When reviewing the photos at the end of the day, I saw appreciation, pride, and confidence.



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Amy Bearinger, a supporter of student-driven success, is committed to empowering students at Eastern Michigan University. Amy serves as a full-time lecturer with the School of Communication, Media and Theatre Arts and as the Event Coordinator for the annual Undergraduate Symposium. She holds a MA (2007) in Communication from EMU and has been working with the Symposium for 15 years. She is going into her fourth year as coordinator.

I often think of a young freshmen student who I interviewed for a Symposium Undergraduate Research Fellow (SURF) position.

This student was a freshman in the true sense of the word. He was smart and determined, but also chaotic in a new student kind of way. He fell into a clear path forward with a distinguished faculty mentor in the Department of Chemistry and presented at the Symposium as a SURF for four years. This student is now, after a successful graduate school career which included fellowships and multiple publications, working as a scientist and engineer in a dream job.

As the Symposium came back in-person last year, students arrived at optional rehearsal sessions with a new kind of apprehension. Immersing themselves back into public spaces, while following COVID-19 protocol, including enunciating enough to be heard through a mask, was quite stressful for many. While I did my best to calm their nerves from a logistical standpoint, I cannot overstate how much the presence of mentors changed their energy. Whether it was talking through the complexity of an important piece of research, offering suggestions for avoiding jargon, running to their office to find a replacement piece of technology, or simply showing up and reminding students of the value of their voice, there was no doubting the impact.

I'll note that mentoring is not an easy thing to do. I realize that mentoring is often not financially recognized or rewarded. While the specific focus on mentoring within the structure of faculty evaluations is not something I'm qualified to argue here, I do believe the benefit of these connections can serve faculty just as much as they do students.

According to [McKinsey](#) the payoff for faculty regarding mentoring can be well worth the additional effort. In fact, McKinsey's research found numerous faculty who noted an en-

hanced understanding of student perception and conceptualization of content, which allowed for a renewed understanding of where student questions and inquiry stemmed from. Throughout this work, I also noted the amount of motivating and inspirational faculty outcomes that had a direct impact on teaching confidence, competence, and overall philosophy. We can easily see how mentoring can redefine the big picture, but I must also mention that it can simply be fun. Sharing in the back and forth of discovery can lead to amusing and enjoyable time spent, which is often a breath of fresh air under the weight of typical academic responsibilities.

I encourage you to consider mentoring students for the Symposium as the opportunity arises this academic year. Whether it be inviting students into a pre-established project, making them aware of an opportunity to strengthen their skill, or encouraging them to turn a class assignment into a project worthy of Symposium inclusion, your efforts will most certainly be rewarded. The 43rd annual Undergraduate Symposium will take place on Friday, March 31st, 2023. Submissions are welcome from November 15th – January 15th ([Submission Information](#)). If you would like more information about the Symposium or where you can share potential research and creative project opportunities with students, please contact me at abearin1@emich.edu.

SUBMIT A BLOG POST

We welcome blog posts from faculty, lecturers, staff, and interested others on teaching and learning topics. Email us at faculty_development@emich.edu with your blog post idea for the opportunity to be featured in future newsletters!