

A glowing lamp with a metal cage and a circular shade hangs in the center of the frame. The shade has Arabic calligraphy and the name 'Peymanfar' written on it. The background is filled with rows of books on wooden shelves, creating a warm, scholarly atmosphere.

# Center for Teaching and Learning

Spring 2020

## **Workshop Your Sabbatical Proposal!**

It's time to rest and learn and do the projects that you can't do while teaching full time. You can apply for a sabbatical at the end of six years of service either from your hire date or last sabbatical. Come with your ideas; we'll work together to create great sabbatical proposals! Proposals for Fall 2020 are due March 1st.

Darlene Attiah (Biology Faculty) and Lidia Dobria (Mathematics Faculty)

Monday, January 27th from 10:00am-11:00am

## **Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Designation (WGSS) Information Session**

This session will cover the basics of the Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Designation (WGSS), particularly the mission, goals, and course proposal process.

Valerie Pell (English Faculty)

Tuesday, January 28th from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **On the Trail of Environmental Change**

We will travel to the public lands around America and take stock of the crucial environmental issues impacting our widely varying ecosystems. From the prairies to the seashores, from the deserts to the mountains, you'll enjoy this journey.

Neill Sachs (Social Science Faculty)

Wednesday, January 29th from 3:30pm-4:30pm

## **Service Learning is Easier Than You Think**

Incorporating service learning into a course is not more work, but a different kind of work, for both you and your students. It is also a way to combat the helpless feeling we experience when faced with the huge problems—global warming, the refugee crisis, endemic violence—that we address in our classes. This session will address the basics and provide concrete examples of service learning.

Merry Mayer (Social Science Faculty)

Thursday, January 30th from 2:00pm-3:00pm

## **Application for Promotion in Rank Workshop**

The application for promotion in rank (to Asst. Professor, Assoc. Professor, Professor) is challenging to navigate on one's own. Come to this session to learn more about the process and to have the opportunity for assistance with your own application from the members of the Rank Promotion Committee. Bring your rough draft, at whatever stage, and your questions. Don't be overwhelmed; just be prepared to write your best possible rank promotion application!

Rank Promotion Committee

Tuesday, February 4th from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **Reading Club Brown Bag**

Meeting monthly over the lunch hour, join colleagues to read and explore a book excerpt or article that touches on an aspect of teaching, working, and happy living.

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Mira Kolodkin (Biology Department)

Wednesday, February 5th from 11:00am-12:00pm

## **What Are Open Education Resources (OERs)?**

OERs have pros and cons. Can you save your students the costs of a textbook and switch to these free options? Could you make your own OER? Come learn more!

Nancy Wyss (Social Science Faculty)

Tuesday, February 11th from 2:00pm-3:00pm

## **Professional Development Funds Process for Professionals**

The main goal of the session is to demystify the professional development reimbursement process for professionals. We will cover what types of professional development opportunities exist for professionals, what was covered in the past, and how to maneuver the reimbursement process for future professional development opportunities.

George Baird (College Advisor), Cynthia Vessel (College Advisor), and  
Justin Holt (Writing Tutor)

Wednesday, February 12th from 12:00pm-1:00pm

## **Practicing What We Preach**

In this session, I will present some of the writing I produced while on Sabbatical pursuing an M.F.A. in writing. I invite faculty from all disciplines to contribute to a discussion about “practicing what we preach,” and to share what kinds of work you practice in your field of study and how that work enhances your classroom.

Bridget Roche (English Faculty)

Wednesday, February 19th from 3:30pm-4:30pm

## **Shakespeare Behind Bars**

Come learn about this pioneering program that demonstrates that anyone can learn Shakespeare, and that Shakespeare can, literally, change lives. The presentation will also talk about other prison theatre projects.

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction)

Thursday, February 20th from 2:00pm-3:00pm

## **Inside the Colleague's Office**

Learn about a fellow colleague's past, present, and future during the inaugural season of Inside the Colleague's Office. In this live episode, please join college-renowned Dean of Instruction, Pamela Monaco, as she interviews Dean of Student Services, Romell Murden-Woldu. Snacks will be served.

Presenters: Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Romell Murden-Woldu (Dean of Student Services)

Tuesday, February 25th from 12:00pm-1:00pm

## **Reading Club Brown Bag**

Meeting monthly over the lunch hour, join colleagues to read and explore a book excerpt or article that touches on an aspect of teaching, working, and happy living.

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Mira Kolodkin (Biology Department)

Wednesday, March 4th from 12:00pm-1:00pm

## **Getting the Word Out on the Census**

Much is at stake for Illinois in this year's Census count—thousands of federal dollars, as well as the state's representation in Congress. Teachers have a major role in ensuring there is an accurate count. In this session, I will show what is at stake and provide materials for your classes.

Merry Mayer (Social Science Faculty)

Tuesday, March 10th from 2:00pm-3:00pm

## **The UP Series, Part One**

Come explore this revolutionary documentary series that has followed the same group of people from the age of seven to their current age of 64. How can this be used in our own classrooms? How does this series challenge our understandings of nature vs. nurture?

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction)

Wednesday, March 11th from 3:00pm-4:00pm

## **Psychology of Popularity**

How does popularity impact us psychologically and physiologically? What are the long-term effects of childhood popularity? Join me as I discuss the most interesting aspects of a free online class I took called "The Psychology of Popularity" by Dr. Prinstein from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Mira Kolodkin (Biology Faculty)

Monday, March 16th from 11:30am-12:30pm

## **Accessibility in the Digital Age**

As we incorporate more technologies into our classroom, how can we ensure that our students with disabilities can access our digital course content? How can we ensure compliance with ADA and section 508 requirements, as well as the Illinois Information Technology Accessibility Act (IITAA)? In this session, Dr. Laurie Alfaro will discuss best practices for your digital content.

Laurie Alfaro (Computer Information Systems Faculty)

Tuesday, March 17th from 3:30pm-4:30pm

## **Identity, Representation, and “Othering”**

We tend to categorize things – and people – as a way of living in the world. While this can be useful, it is also the root of some of our worst tendencies and most severe crises. This session will explore how we construct ourselves and others in connection with the broad topics of identity, ethnocentrism, and “othering”. Conversation will relate to my sabbatical work and will include further ideas for teaching.

Beverly Bennett (Social Science Faculty)

Wednesday, March 18th from 3:00pm-4:00pm

## **The Art of Arabic Calligraphy**

Join me for an exploration of the history and development of Arabic calligraphy, as well as its various styles. After some background, participants will practice writing Arabic calligraphy.

Darlene Attiah (Biology Faculty)

Monday, March 23rd from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **Be a Fulbrighter!**

Come learn about the process that allows you to explore the world through your teaching talents.

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction)

Tuesday, March 24th from 3:00pm-4:00pm

## **Inside the Colleague’s Office**

Learn about a fellow colleague’s past, present, and future during the inaugural season of Inside the Colleague’s Office. In this live episode, please join college-renowned Dean of Instruction, Pamela Monaco, as she interviews Visual and Performing Arts faculty member, Thomas Murdock. Snacks will be served.

Presenters: Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Thomas Murdock (Visual and Performing Arts Faculty)

Wednesday, March 25th from 3:30pm-4:30pm

## **Reading Club Brown Bag**

Meeting monthly over the lunch hour, join colleagues to read and explore a book excerpt or article that touches on an aspect of teaching, working, and happy living.

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Mira Kolodkin (Biology Department)

Wednesday, April 1st from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **Humanizing the STEM Classroom**

Join me for an interactive discussion on the importance of creating a culture of inquiry and creativity using relevance and engagement. We will build off of our discussion to explore how such a culture promotes humanism in STEM fields that adds value and agency in faculty/student development.

Danny Shields (Computer Information Sciences Faculty)

Thursday, April 2nd from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **Inside the Colleague's Office**

Learn about a fellow colleague's past, present, and future during the inaugural season of Inside the Colleague's Office. In this live episode, please join college-renowned Dean of Instruction, Pamela Monaco, as she interviews Social Science faculty member, Beverly Bennett. Snacks will be served.

Presenters: Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction) and Beverly Bennett (Social Science Faculty)

Tuesday, April 14th from 3:00pm-4:00pm

## **Pluto Revealed!**

The New Horizons mission has provided wonderful new images of Pluto and its moons. Learn more about the mission's findings, as well as the history of our understanding of Pluto (e.g why is Pluto not a planet anymore?!).

Justin Lowry (Physical Sciences and Engineering Faculty)

Wednesday, April 15th from 1:00pm-2:00pm

## **Mindfulness Assignments**

A recent conference alerted me to the value of mindfulness in our classrooms. Can mindfulness exercises reduce anxiety in the classroom? Join me to discuss the benefits and challenges of integrating mindfulness into our classrooms. Please bring a laptop or printout of an assignment that you could imagine being adapted with a mindfulness component and we'll start working through these adaptations together!

Mira Kolodkin (Biology Department)

Monday, April 20th from 12:30pm-1:30pm

## Getting a Rise in our Treats: Ammonia, Baking Soda, and the Baking Powder Wars

I almost gagged when I read the recipe title, "Ammonia Cookies," and then I discovered the old rising agent is still being used! Come learn about the different ways we add a "lift" to our baking and what led to the white powder wars among the baking powder companies. Treats will be served, including "ammonia cookies."

Pamela Monaco (Dean of Instruction)

Wednesday, April 22nd from 2:00pm-3:00pm

## 'Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer's Day,' or You, Too, Can Write a Shakespearean Sonnet

In this session we will read several of Shakespeare's Sonnets and discuss setting up your own sonnet-a-day schedule. Finally, we will write our own sonnets!

Mike Petersen (English Faculty)

Thursday, April 23rd from 11:00am-12:20pm

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