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Shippensburg University's Provost Office Press

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Work Begins on the Middle States Accreditation Process

It's that time again - time to gear up for Shippensburg University's re-accreditation by the Commission on Higher Education of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, the body that accredits degree-granting colleges and universities in the Middle States region. This is an institutionwide process that happens every ten years. A Steering Committee, co-chaired by Dr. Rick Ruth, Interim Provost, and Dr. Tracy Schoolcraft, Interim Associate Provost, has been

formed from representatives from all sectors of the university community. These dedicated individuals are already hard at work on the Self-Study - an honest look at the institution's strengths as well as areas that need improvement or have potential for growth. Dr. Robert Schneider, Shippensburg University's liaison with Middle States, visited the campus on March 27, 2007. Schneider offered encouragement and a few suggestions for the work

ahead. In the upcoming months, work groups will continue to put together reports for inclusion in the Self-Study and ultimately prepare for the Middle States Team visit in the Spring of 2009.



C-Fest Campus Support: Opportunities for Faculty Growth

The Center for Excellence in Scholarship and Teaching (C-FEST), located in Horton Hall Room 321, is a resource for faculty that is divided into two main components. One component of C-FEST (grants committee) focuses on reviewing proposals and awarding faculty travel and training grants. The other component of C-FEST, (campus support), is a committee composed of faculty from all three colleges that is dedicated to facilitating faculty members' professional development related to teaching and pedagogy.

C-FEST campus support offers a variety of different resources and

experiences that are open to all faculty members. In the C-FEST office, there are some videos and many different books on different pedagogical topics such as collaborative learning, assessment, effective discussion techniques which faculty members are encouraged to borrow. Chad Kimmel, Assistant Professor of Sociology/Anthropology, has done a fantastic job in organizing and facilitating the "Conversations in Teaching" gatherings which occur three times each semester. During these "Conversations in Teaching" lunches, faculty members from different departments and across all

three Colleges participate in animated discussions on a number of different topics salient to teaching. These groups share their ideas and experiences on teaching strategies such as "developing rubrics, creating a good classroom climate" and many others.

In addition to hosting discussion groups and offering pedagogical resources, C-FEST has the primary responsibility of planning and hosting New Faculty Orientation and the Faculty Exchange series for incoming faculty members. Through New Faculty (Continued on Page 4

Outstanding!

We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."
- Aristotle

Winners receive a monetary award and have their story published in the *Crab Orchard Review*, a nationally recognized literary magazine.

Margaret Evans: Ms. Evans, Associate Professor of Communications/Journalism, was recently recognized for her dedication as faculty advisor for the Cumberland Yearbook. The editorial staff of the publication won an Honorable Mention award from the Taylor Publishing Yearbook Yearbook 2007 publication. The Cumberland Yearbook was evaluated in numerous categories, such as cover design, theme development, and layout and design.

Weidong Mao: Dr. Mao, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, successfully earned his PhD in August 2006. His dissertationtopic was "Prediction of Genetic Susceptibility to Complex Disease." Vicki Taylor: Dr. Taylor,
Associate Professor of
Management/Marketing,
received recognition for her role
as faculty advisor for
Shippensburg University's
chapter of the Society for Human
Resource Management. In its
first year participating in the
awards program, the group
received honorable mention from
the national organization for its
outstanding job of providing
growth and development
opportunities for its members.

Joanne Tucker: Dr. Tucker,
Associate Professor of Finance
and Supply Chain Management,
was awarded runner-up status in
the 2006 Instructional Innovation
Award Competition for her
Business Processes for Digital
Enterprises course. The
competition was sponsored by
Alpha Iota Delta, Prentice Hall
Publishing, and the Decision
Sciences Institute.



The Institutional Research Team: Stephanie Eagle, Teresa Crider, Mark Pilgrim, and Steven Bucher

How many degrees in history were awarded in 2005-2006? How many current students are from Chester County? How many alumni live in Alaska? Answers to these questions and so many more are provided by Shippensburg University's Office of Institutional Research and Planning. Though many may not be aware of it, this office provides critical support to the university. Director Mark Pilgrim

and his staff have an almoststaggering list of responsibilities covering everything data collection and publication to developing and administering university-wide assessments then analyzing the results. Information provided by the office is used by university leaders when planning or decision-making. Since it is the contact point for external requests for information about Shippensburg University, the office also spends a great deal of time gathering information for the state and various other reporting agencies. They respond to all of these requests as quickly as possible. "We try to accommodate a broad spectrum of requests," notes Pilgrim. "We can't afford to get behind, because we will never get caught up if we do."

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URSP Supports Large Faculty Projects

To assist faculty engaging in research, the University Research and Scholarship Program (URSP) was established in 2005. Through a highly competitive selection process, URSP provides faculty with time and funds to complete substantial research or creative and performing arts projects that will result in significant publications, performance / display, or additional major grants. Full time tenured or tenure-track faculty (in at least their second full year) who hold a terminal degree are eligible to apply. Led by co-chairs David Bateman, Professor of Teacher Education, and Kurt Fuellhart. Associate Professor of Geography/Earth Science, the selection committee reviews the proposals and makes their decisions wholly on project merit. To date, URSP has funded a wide range of topics, from Dr. Cynthia Botteron's "Power, Politics, and the Bengal Tiger" to Dr. Mark Spicka's "Selling the Economic Miracle: Economic Reconstruction and Politics in West Germany, 1949-1957." "The URSP program provided crucial and generous support for finishing my book manuscript,"

noted Spicka, Assistant Professor of History/Philosophy. "With the travel funds, I was able to travel to Germany to conduct vital research in archives and collect illustrations that are included in the book. In addition, the URSP program gave me the time to make the final revisions and changes to the book. I don't know how I would have completed this project without the URSP support." Dr. Christopher Woltemade, Professor of Geography/Earth Science who received funding for his project, "Hydrologic Influences on Nitrogen Removal in Wetland," commented, "The URSP program has allowed me to expand a local field research effort into a collaborative project with a group of geographers conducting similar research in Germany. We are addressing the water quality benefits of wetlands in comparative landscapes across the Atlantic. Based on the URSP grant I received last summer, I will be presenting this research at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in April 2007 and I had a manuscript approved for publication in the Journal of

American Water Resources Association."

The following faculty members have received URSP grants for 2007-2008:

Dr. William Blewett, Professor of Geography/Earth Science **Dr. Allison Carey**, Assistant

Sociology/Anthropology

Professor of

Dr. Timothy Hawkins, Assistant Professor of Geography/Earth Science

Dr. Sabrina Joseph, Assistant Professor of History/Philosophy

Dr. Margaret Lucia, Associate Professor of Music/Theatre Arts

Dr. Scott Madey, Associate Professor of Psychology

Dr. John Richardson, Professor of Chemistry

Dr. Hong Rim, Professor of Finance/Supply Chain Management

Dr. Susan Rimby, Professor of History/Philosophy

Dr. Robert Setaputra, Associate Professor of Finance/Supply Chain Management

URSP awards are made annually. Additional information about the program can be found on its webpage: http://www.ship.edu/~ursp "I don't know how I would have completed this project without URSP support." - Dr. Mark Spicka, Assistant Professor of History/Philosophy and URSP Award Recipient

Shippensburg To Host 2009 PASSHE Summer Honors Program

For the first time since 1987, Shippensburg University has been selected to host the PASSHE Summer Honors Program. In 2009, the year marking the 25th anniversary of SU's Honors Program, honors students from all 14 PASSHE schools will come to Shippensburg for a three-week summer experience. Once here, they will start their study of "Constructing European Identity: The Middle Ages and the

Modern Era" with courses taught by Dr. Christine Senecal, Associate Professor of History/Philosophy, Dr. Neil Brasher, Professor of Political Science, and Dr. Cynthia Botteron, Assistant Professor of Political Science. The second week of the program will find the group in Brussels, Belgium. During the third week, students will visit and explore various sites, including NATO and the European Union, in Belgium,

Germany, and the Netherlands.

The Summer Honors Program is an annual event hosted by one of the PASSHE schools. Host schools are selected through a competitive process. Two students from each participating school are selected to attend the program.



Office of the Provost

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Ms. Theresa Clugh, Secretary
Ms. Tammy Pearson, Secretary

About Shippensburg University

Ms. Heather Wadas, Secretary

Shippensburg University is a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education (PASSHE). Located in on 200 acres in south-central Pennsylvania, it is home to over 7000 undergraduate and graduate students. It has served as an institute of higher education in the region since 1873.

We're on the Web! http://www.ship.edu/admin/provost/



Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, in compliance with federal and state laws and university policy, is committed to human understanding and provides equal educational, employment, and economic opportunities for all persons without regard to race, color, sex, age, creed, national origin, religion, veteran status, or disability. Direct requests for disability accommodations and other inquiries to the Office of Social Equity, Old Main 200, Shippensburg University, 1871 Old Main Drive, Shippensburg, PA 17257-2299, (717) 477-1161.

And Now A Word From Our Sponsor....

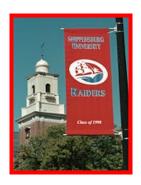
Rick Ruth, Interim Provost & VP for Academic Affairs



It is not enough to have a good mind; the main thing is to use it well. – Cicero

It seems like only yesterday that we were welcoming new students and new faculty to campus. Now, we are preparing to graduate another class to the world of work or graduate school. Just when it seemed like spring would never come, summer is almost here. The spring rains have brought a sense of newness and freshness to the campus. This metaphor also applies to the arrival of our new President, Dr. Bill Ruud. Already there is a sense of excitement and renewal s to almost everything we are doing. Processes, decisions, and new initiatives that have been proceeding cautiously are busting forth. In the coming year,

new initiatives will take root and grow. It is truly an exiting time at Ship. I hope that you have a good and productive summer, but that you, too, are already looking forward to the coming academic year.



C-Fest Support, continued

Orientation and the Faculty Exchange sessions, new faculty members meet a variety of different people on campus and learn about the services and resources available to them at Shippensburg University.

C-FEST sponsors the
Teaching Teams Program
through which four faculty
members from different
departments and/or
Colleges form a
"Teaching Team" that
meets regularly for a "free
lunch" or "breakfast"
throughout the academic
year. Some "teaching
teams" decide they want
to continue to meet for a

a longer term and others change members more frequently. Each "Teaching Team" decides the topics they discuss and how frequently they meet. If you are interested in joining a "Teaching Team", we would be happy to set you up with a team.

The C-FEST campus support committee is open to your suggestions on how we can support your professional development as a teaching scholar. If you would like to join any of our existing programs or suggest some new opportunities, contact Sue Morin at

smmori@ship.edu.

C-FEST Campus Support Committee Members: Sue Morin, Co-Director of C-FEST (campus support) Joe Shane, College of Arts and Sciences Jan Smith, College of Arts and Sciences Bob Stephens, College of **Business** April Bailey, College of Lynn Bynum, College of Education and Human Services Eucabeth Odhiambo. College of Education and **Human Services**