



August 19, 2016

To: The Faculty and Staff
From: Barry Pearson, Provost

Dear Colleagues:

Greetings!

I hope your summer has been restful and rewarding. I look forward to your return and to kicking off the year at our All Academic Affairs meeting next Thursday, August 25, at 9 a.m. (Coffee and bagels will be available starting at 8:30 a.m.) The schedule of activities during the first week of the faculty obligation, August 22–28, can be downloaded [here](#).

I'm not sure if this has been the case for everyone, but I've felt estranged from the media this summer. It's been hard to watch the nightly news, for instance. If some who hold center stage in these broadcasts are to be believed, the world is bereft of generosity and kindness.

More hope has come my way through daily experiences than from the media's portrayal of our world. This was never proven truer than when, in July, my father was out on a fishing trip with his 10-year-old grandson, Evan, and keeled over from heat exhaustion. The very first person Evan asked to help leapt into action without hesitation, which quickly brought the assistance of a second, third, and fourth person. In short, my dad was well taken care of by perfect strangers.

And just as my daily experiences often do, this event helped emancipate me of the more disparaging view of people painted by the caricatures in the media. Dickens put it well when he wrote, "The thoughts of worldly men are for ever regulated by a moral law of gravitation, which, like the physical one, holds them down to earth. The bright glory of day, and the silent wonders of a starlit night, appeal to their minds in vain. There are no signs in the sun, or in the moon, or in the stars, for their reading. They are like some wise men, who, learning to know each planet by its Latin name, have quite forgotten such small heavenly constellations as Charity, Forbearance, Universal Love, and Mercy" If one succumbs to such men's televangelism of hatred, small acts of generosity and kindness that abound pass by inconsequentially.

All the more reason that I cling to my daily experience, which tells me that we are not the smoldering dark embers of a hateful world. In fact, we are so much more effective in making the world what we want it to be—a generous, kind, and open place. It's in keeping with this spirit that I look forward to the new academic year.

So, at the all-AA meeting, it will be my pleasure to share with you exciting news and updates like the great success of our first summer success fellows camp, new thinking on the use and role of the Library, and a new exciting undergraduate research opportunity. These and a few other topics will comprise the agenda. Be well, see you soon, and I look forward to beginning this year with you.

New Full-Time Faculty

Please join me in welcoming our 12 [new full-time faculty](#) this fall. Five appointments are on the tenure track, including two faculty members (Rachel Dickstein and Krystal Perkins) who have been teaching at Purchase on visiting appointments. I look forward to meeting with our new full-time faculty during their orientation on Wednesday, August 24.

Upcoming Award and Leave Application Deadlines

Please note the application/nomination deadlines this semester for:

- [Junior Faculty Development Leaves](#): **October 3** (to your chair or director)
- [Sabbatical Leaves](#): **October 3** (to your chair or director)
- [Faculty Support Awards](#): **November 1** (to your chair or director)
- [Part-Time Teaching Support Awards](#): **November 15** (to your chair or director)
- [Chancellor's Awards for Excellence](#): The respective peer-review committees on campus will issue calls for nominations this fall. **December 1** is the deadline for peer review of nominations for all categories except [Adjunct Teaching](#). (Nominations for the Adjunct Teaching award must be peer-reviewed earlier because they are due to SUNY on November 15, an earlier deadline than the other categories.)

For more information, including the leave application form and application deadlines in spring 2017, please visit the [Faculty Awards](#) section on the Office of the Provost website. Information on awards and leaves offered through the New York State/United University Professions Joint Labor-Management Committees (JLMC) is available at nysuup.lmc.ny.gov.

2016–17 Faculty Handbook Online

What is the process for proposing a course or revising a curriculum? What is a faculty member's role in helping students with disabilities succeed at Purchase? How long must you retain assessed student work? How can you promote your professional activities and accomplishments? What is the faculty review timeline for reappointment, promotion, and tenure? Find answers to these and much more in the **2016–17 edition of the Faculty Handbook**, available at www.purchase.edu/facultyhandbook. It contains a wealth of information for faculty members in every stage of their career at Purchase. The handbook is also updated as needed to reflect changes that may occur during the academic year.