



September 22, 2014

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

Dear Colleagues:

“I want a good job!” I hear that said a lot by students, with the backup from their parents being “... and it’s your job to get it for them.” This has become part of the national rhetoric as the government champions performance-based evaluation of colleges, using alumni employability as a major criterion for continued qualification for federal student financial aid.

Some colleges have recoiled from the “education-for-life-as-a-worker” bandwagon, but others have not. And, according to the TV ads of some for-profits (alongside ads for Viagra and Botox), their graduates will be the employees of the future anyway.

But is the criterion relevant? In the economy of the future, it is estimated that people will have multiple careers, sometimes sequential and other times parallel (analyst by day, entrepreneur by night). A recent MIT study sponsored by the Federal Reserve points out that the most highly prized employees—those who perform well at complex problem solving—are not motivated by money but, rather, by three drivers: autonomy, mastery, and purpose. In fact, the study found that, for complex cognitive and creative work, increasing financial incentives could actually undermine performance.

So what do we do with this information? I see it as an opportunity to articulate how the critical and creative thinking that we encourage at Purchase is at the heart of the “complex problem solving” that will be needed in the future. Creative and deeply reflective thinkers are also critical thinkers. As the MIT study showed, engaged individuals are unmotivated by simple, routine tasks, which are quickly becoming less and less the nature of work in the 21st century. With the growth of robotics and other technological automation, there are fewer jobs that involve tightening a bolt or collecting a toll and [forecasts](#) of continuing disruptions across the coming decades.

“Workers of the world” in the 21st century will need to be thinkers and innovators, fundamentally motivated by the desire to learn and become better at “stuff”—again, two characteristics traditionally at the heart of liberal learning. Our graduates, who can connect the “dots others can’t see” and know what it means to benefit from a public education, are also the very people who can navigate today’s culturally complex world of work.

Any creative or truly critical enterprise seeks, as its purpose, a result or response that is beyond any physical or rudimentary kind of application. In short, it seeks a purpose that necessarily ignites the intellect and imagination. It is one thing to say, “I want to get an education to get a job,” but quite another to say “I want to be equipped, imaginatively and emotionally, to be at the center of the world’s most interesting and complex problems.” That is what Purchase can do for its students as it relates to creative and critical thinking: not only equip them for these challenges, but motivate in them the desire to be at that center.

In response to “I want a good job,” therefore, I would say, “engage the ‘big stuff,’ write and think about, and create around, the problems and ideas that engage your intellect, and the world will need you and a lifetime of jobs will follow.”

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## 2014–15 Student Engagement Grants

The [Academic Resource Center](#) is continuing its efforts to fund extracurricular and interdisciplinary events through the Student Engagement Grants. The **Purchase College Association (PCA)** has garnered \$20,000 to fund this year's grants, which will be equally divided between the fall and spring semesters.

**Who is eligible?** All full-time and part-time faculty.

**Purpose:** To support faculty initiatives that increase student engagement with the world beyond the classroom and offer them new venues for interacting with each other. Examples include taking a class on a trip to a museum exhibit or a performance.

**Award:** Up to \$500

**Applications due:** Ongoing

For more information and to apply, please see the revised Student Engagement Grant [Guidelines and Application](#).

## Full-Time Faculty Searches for 2015–16

During the past academic year, 10 searches were conducted for full-time faculty, resulting in seven tenure-track hires and three visiting positions, starting this fall. We were also able to continue waivers for temporary full-time faculty moving forward to 2014–15.

For academic-year 2015–16, searches are currently underway for full-time faculty in **arts management, economics, history, journalism, mathematics, new media, and psychology**, plus two directors (one for the Conservatory of Dance and one for the Conservatory of Theatre Arts). This makes a total of 10 searches underway, with more being planned. An additional seven have been approved, pending submission of paperwork to begin the process. Updates will be provided as more information is available on these searches.

## Promotions and Tenure/Permanent Appointments

Warm congratulations to the following faculty and professionals for achieving promotion, tenure (continuing appointment), and permanent appointment, as announced at Convocation:

### Promotion to Full Professor:

**Sanford Ikeda**, Economics

### Promotions to Associate Professor:

**David Grill**, Theatre Design/Technology—with tenure

**Matthew Immergut**, Sociology—with tenure

**Steve Lambert**, New Media

**Ryan Taylor**, Environmental Studies—with tenure

**Mary Alice Williams**, Journalism—with tenure

### Promotions of Professionals

**Robert Ciafardini**, to Sports Information Director (Physical Education, Recreation, and Athletics)

**Ryan Homsey**, to Director of the Academic Resource Center

**Albana Krasniqi**, to Internal Operations Manager/Senior Staff Assistant (Physical Education, Recreation, and Athletics)

**Beatriz Martin-Ruiz**, to Senior Program Coordinator/Staff Associate (Conservatory of Music)

**Alan Philpot**, to Assistant Director of Campus Technology Services

**Doreen Rossi**, to Assistant Director of Technical Services (Campus Technology Services)

**Daniel Schoch**, to Assistant Director of Administrative Services (Campus Technology Services)

**Jennifer Perry Shingelo**, to Assistant Dean of Students and Enrollment (School of the Arts)

**Catherine Van Bomel**, to Counselor (Counseling Center)  
**Susan Werner**, to Program Coordinator (Conservatory of Theatre Arts)

### Permanent Appointments of Professionals

**Jay Estiva**, Student Financial Services  
**Connie Guhl**, Performing Arts Center  
**Christy Havard**, Performing Arts Center  
**Kelly Jackson**, School of Liberal Studies & Continuing Education  
**Kimberly Johnson**, Admissions  
**Melissa Jones**, Student Affairs  
**Daniel Kang**, School of Film and Media Studies  
**Albana Krasniqi**, Physical Education, Recreation, and Athletics  
**Anthony Latassa**, Facilities Management  
**Cynthia Marino-Sicat**, School of Liberal Studies & Continuing Education  
**Edward Musal**, Facilities Management  
**Jared Pereira**, Communications and Creative Services  
**Liz Sibio**, Admissions  
**John Sicat**, Student Financial Services  
**Leah Springer**, Performing Arts Center

### Upcoming Events: September–October

For the most current information on upcoming public events, please refer to the [campus calendar](#), [Neuberger Museum calendar](#), or [Performing Arts Center calendar](#). (Events and details may be added, changed, or deleted after an issue of *Notes* is prepared.)

*Exhibitions on view and opening:*

#### Neuberger Museum of Art:

- [The Art of Zero: Heinz Mack, Otto Piene, Günther Uecker and Friends](#) (through Sept. 28)
- [Ranjit Bhatnagar: Stone Song](#) (through Nov. 2)
- [Key Frames: Contemporary Artists' Animation](#) (through Jan. 11)
- [This Leads to Fire: Russian Art from Nonconformism to Global Capitalism, Selections from the Kolodzei Art Foundation Collection](#) (through Jan. 11)

#### Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery:

- [Antonio Frasconi: Stand Up and Be Counted](#) (Sept. 29–Nov. 19; opening reception Oct. 2)  
*with additional works on view at the Neuberger Museum, the upper lobby of the Performing Arts Center, the Library, and the 1019a Gallery in the Visual Arts Building*

#### [Purchase Symphony Orchestra](#)

*Conducted by Ransom Wilson*

**Fri., Sept. 26, 7:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

#### Musical Theatre

*A student-run collaboration of musical theatre and dance*

\$3 with valid Purchase ID, \$5 at the door

**Fri.–Sat., Sept. 26–27, 8 p.m.**

Dance Theatre Lab

#### [An Evening with Branford Marsalis](#)

**Sat., Sept. 27, 8 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Martha Clarke's Chéri](#)

**Sun., Sept. 28, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Dineo Bopape, South African Artist: On Beauty, "Roughnecking," and Other Art Matters](#)

*Presentation/lecture open to the Purchase community*

**Tues., Sept. 30, 10:30 a.m.** (to noon)

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Opening Reception – Antonio Frasconi: Stand Up and Be Counted](#)

**Thurs., Oct. 2, 4:30 p.m.**

Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery

[Mike Birbiglia: Thank God for Jokes](#)

**Thurs., Oct. 2, 8 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[La Traviata](#)

**Sun., Oct. 5, 2 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[An Evening with Junot Díaz: A Lecture, Reading, and Conversation](#)

*Durst Distinguished Lecture Series*

**Tues., Oct. 7, 4:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Behind the Headlines: Ending Sexual Violence on Campus](#)

*The 9th Annual John Howard Lecture on Law and Society*

Fall 2014 School of Natural and Social Sciences Lecture Series

**Tues., Oct. 7, 7 p.m.**

Natural Science Building, Lecture Hall 1001

[Jack Pierson: Visiting Artist Lecture Series](#)

**Wed., Oct. 8, 4:30 p.m.**

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

**Purchase Repertory Theatre:** [Tales from the Vienna Woods](#)

*Directed by David Bassuk*

**Fri., Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.**

**Sat., Oct. 11, 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.**

**Wed.–Fri., Oct. 15–17, 7:30 p.m.**

**Sat., Oct. 18, 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[An Evening with David Sedaris](#)

**Sun., Oct. 12, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Jeffrey Gibson: Visiting Artist Lecture Series](#)

**Wed., Oct. 15, 4:30 p.m.**

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[When Modern Was Contemporary: The Roy R. Neuberger Collection Catalogue Colloquium](#) (Part I)

**Sun., Oct. 19, 2 p.m.**

Neuberger Museum of Art

[Black Violin](#)

**Sun., Oct. 19, 3 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Gallery Talk: Ilse Schreiber-Noll](#)

*On Antonio Frasconi as a woodcut artist*

**Mon., Oct. 20, 3 p.m.**

Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery

[Talk Cinema: Life's a Breeze](#)

**Tues., Oct. 21, 7 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

**Faculty Colloquium**

*Tracy Fitzpatrick, Genevieve Hyacinthe, Julian Kreimer, Jane Kromm, and Michael Lobel*

**Wed., Oct. 22, 4:30 p.m.**

Neuberger Museum Study

[Anoka Faruqee: Visiting Artist Lecture Series](#)

**Wed., Oct. 22, 4:30 p.m.**

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[New Orleans Legends](#)

*Featuring the Preservation Hall Band and Allen Toussaint*

**Fri., Oct. 24, 8 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[The Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center](#)

**Sat., Oct. 25, 5 p.m.**

Performing Arts Center

[Christopher Janney: Visiting Artist Lecture Series](#)

**Wed., Oct. 29, 4:30 p.m.**

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Gallery Talk: Miguel Frasconi, Ben Ortiz, and Ilse Schreiber-Noll](#)

**Thurs., Oct. 30, 3 p.m.**

Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery

**Purchase Sinfonietta: Inaugural Concert**

*Directed by Dominic Donato*

*Featuring the music of Oliver Knussen, Edgard Varese, Emily Koh and James Tenney*

**Thurs., Oct. 30, 8 p.m.**

Music Building, Recital Hall

**Purchase Repertory Theatre:** [Marat/Sade](#)

*Directed by A. Dean Irby*

**Fri., Oct. 31, 7:30 p.m.** (continues into Nov.)

Performing Arts Center