



November 23, 2015

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

Dear Colleagues:

PART III of IV:

The belief students have in their own ideas increases when inquiry and critical engagement are conditioned around joy. Or, to put the same notion another way: never underestimate a good epiphany.

The effects that self-guided discoveries can have on students' passion and drive are incalculable. These effects are intensified when the idea is original or innovative. But we are often reluctant to make the leap into teaching creative processes when value and originality remain uncertain outcomes. Nonetheless, I'll bank on artistic and critical inquiries that build joy into learning over models that too often are centered on power and authority.

Our students are confronted daily with media packed with vocational narratives defining the value of their education. Absent the public discussion, however, is a dialogue around students' personal narratives of growth and passion, ignited by their liberal education. We know these effects to be real, and they are the very outcomes that continue to motivate us here at Purchase. But the current picture is far too often one that is dispiriting because it portrays our work as nothing less than industrial, routinized training of a workforce. It lacks an understanding that the challenge we face as educators is nothing less than keeping joy and hope possible, and the world's humanity intact.

If we are to reverse the utilitarian value proposition that is so quickly defining education, I think it requires placing our students' creative and innovative "production" at the center of the dialogue. Not simply as proof of our success, but as the blunt awakening to the public that it is our students' ideas on which our future rests. For those who desire otherwise, I'd put it this way: we can have a world of "worker bees," but it will come at the expense of the world's joy.

Reinstated Minor in Global Black Studies Available in January

The [minor in global black studies](#), approved for reinstatement by the Educational Policies Committee on October 28, will be available to students in all disciplines in January. It consists of five courses taught by Purchase faculty whose research and teachings, while "housed" within various fields, are deeply engaged with global black issues. This revitalized program is one of several diversity initiatives introduced in direct response to the wishes of students. Special thanks to **Genevieve Hyacinthe**, assistant professor of art history, for coordinating its updating and reinstatement, and to the [interdisciplinary group of faculty members](#) with whom she is collaborating.

Finals Countdown at the Library

The Library will be open **24 hours a day, five days a week** from November 30 through December 18, and will hold its annual series of relaxing "Finals Countdown" events on December 7–11. This year's "de-stressing" events—**open to students, faculty, and staff**—will include cheese tasting with the Purchase Cheese Club, tea

time, adult coloring, making your own stress balls, button making (using recycled book jackets), late-night bagels and coffee, and a performance by student musicians. Watch your email for full details, and come by to relax before the end of the semester!

Natural and Social Sciences Lecture Series: Omowunmi Sadik on December 7

“Can Your iPhone Tell You What’s Good in Your Food?

Nanosensors for Rapid Detection of Food Pathogens”

Omowunmi Sadik, PhD

Professor of Bioanalytical and Environmental Chemistry, Binghamton University, SUNY

Monday, December 7, 7 p.m.

Student Services Building, Red Room

Professor, chemist, and inventor [Omowunmi A. Sadik](#) was born in 1964 in Lagos, Nigeria. She earned her BS and MS in chemistry from the University of Lagos and received her PhD in chemistry in 1994 at Wollongong University in Australia. A member of the Binghamton University faculty since 1996, she has co-authored more than 135 peer-reviewed research papers and patent applications, has given more than 120 keynote and invited lectures, has been awarded four U.S. patents for her work on biosensors, and has received more than \$5 million in funding and contracts from both the private sector and government agencies. Sadik’s numerous awards include Harvard University’s Distinguished Radcliffe Fellowship, a NSF Discovery Corps Senior Fellowship, SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Research and for Outstanding Inventor, the Australian Merit Award, and a National Research Council (NRC) COBASE fellowship.

Spring Course Development Opportunities at the TLTC

The **Teaching, Learning, and Technology Center** will sponsor faculty cohorts for the spring semester to work on course development projects in two areas: **hybrid course design** and **development of COIL courses** (Collaborative Online International Learning). The TLTC will also support faculty who wish to participate in any of these SUNY faculty development opportunities: the [Quality by Design](#) MOOC, the [Tools of Engagement Project](#), and the [Open SUNY Accessibility](#) MOOC. For details on the cohort projects, requirements, and stipends, or the SUNY opportunities, please email [Keith Landa](#).

Upcoming Events: November–December

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:

Neuberger Museum of Art:

- [After 1965: Art in a Time of Social Unrest](#) (through March 13, 2016)
- [Liza Lou: Color Field and Solid Grey](#) (through February 21, 2016)

Richard and Dolly Maass Gallery:

- [Fall 2015 MFA Group Reception](#) (December 3–18)
- Opening Reception:** December 2, 4:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center, Upper Lobby:

- [Who Owns the Sky?](#) (through January 31, 2016)

Thanksgiving Recess

Wed.–Sun., Nov. 25–29

Residence Halls close at 9 a.m. on Nov. 25 and reopen at 2 p.m. on Nov. 29.

[Film Screening: *Mediterranea*](#)

and Q&A with director Jonas Carpignano

Wed., Dec. 2, 5:50 p.m.

Music Building, Choral Hall

[New Media Lecture Series: Liz Magic Laser](#)

Wed., Dec. 2, 6:30 p.m.

Neuberger Museum Study

[Purchase *Symphonic Winds*](#)

Wed., Dec. 2, 7 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Purchase *Jazz Orchestra*](#)

Thurs., Dec. 3, 7 p.m.

Music Building, Choral Hall

[Purchase *Latin Jazz Orchestra*](#)

Fri., Dec. 4, 8 p.m.

Music Building, Choral Hall

[Purchase *Repertory Theatre: All's Well That Ends Well*](#)

Fri. & Wed.–Fri., Dec. 4 & 9–11, 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 5 & 12, 1:30 & 7:30 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[A *Chanticleer Christmas*](#)

Sat., Dec. 5, 4 & 8 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Ray Chen](#)

Sun., Dec. 6, 3 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Lecture: Omowunmi Sadik](#)

Natural and Social Sciences Lecture Series

Mon., Dec. 7, 7 p.m.

Student Services Building, Red Room

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: Martha Wilson](#)

Wed., Dec. 9, 4:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Jazz Showcase](#)

Featuring the Purchase Jazz and Latin Jazz Orchestras

Wed., Dec. 9, 7 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Purchase *Camerata*](#)

Thurs., Dec. 10, 5 p.m.

Neuberger Museum of Art

[Purchase Symphony Orchestra and Chorus](#)

Fri., Dec. 11, 7 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Purchase Dance Company: Fall Dance Concert](#)

Fri., Dec. 11, 8 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 12, 2 & 8 p.m.

Sun., Dec. 13, 3 p.m.

Performing Arts Center

[Purchase New Music](#)

Tues., Dec. 15, 8 p.m.

Music Building, Recital Hall

[Visiting Artist Lecture Series: David Altmejd](#)

Wed., Dec. 16, 4:30 p.m.

Visual Arts Building, Room 1016

[Rob Mathes Holiday Concert](#)

Fri.–Sat., Dec. 18–19, 8 p.m.

Performing Arts Center