

August 4, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

I'm writing to invite you to this year's Fall Colloquium, the event that traditionally opens our academic year. The Colloquium will take place on Tuesday, September 6, from 8:30 until noon, in the Banquet Room in Hicks Center. Everyone is then invited to lunch, after which the annual Advising Symposium will take place in the same room.

This year the Colloquium has been reconfigured to incorporate the Teagle Teaching and Learning Symposium, which we are "absorbing" as our Teagle Grant runs out. In lieu of an outside speaker, we have planned an array of diverse presentations centering on the trajectory of our own academic program in this era of profound change at the college.

The morning's schedule is as follows:

8:30 a.m.: Coffee and continental breakfast

9:00 a.m.: Greetings from the President and the Colloquium planners

9:15 a.m.: Presentations

1. The past year's Teagle Grant recipients will report on their work: Laura Barraclough, Jeff Bartz, and Zaide Pixley.
2. Eric Nordmoe will report on his research-in-progress on the question of breadth in course selection among students on the "new curriculum."
3. Bob Grossman, Binney Girdler (for EPC), and Mike Sosulski (for TLC) will report on their research on the effectiveness of the sophomore seminars in achieving their stated goals.
4. Anne Dueweke will take us on a tour of the most recent NSSE data, gathered in winter of 2011 from first-year students and seniors.

It is very important that we get something like an accurate count by the end of August. So, in response to this email, will you please contact Kitty Momburg, Humphrey House administrative assistant, to confirm your attendance for the Colloquium and for lunch? Kitty can be reached by email (kitty.momburg@kzoo.edu) or phone (269-337-7043).

Finally: If you are a department chair or area supervisor with new colleagues this fall, will you please be sure they know about the Colloquium, and meet up with them that morning to walk over together, and introduce them around?

Thanks, and enjoy the rest of your summer.

Gail Griffin

For the Teaching and Learning Committee