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Titan Success: Faculty Behind the Scenes, March

Mellon Center

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FACULTY BEHIND THE SCENES

The latest in Titan Success, making Tommy proud.

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Mellon Center

p. 309.556.3902

e. melncntr@iwu.edu

a. Holmes Hall, 200

w. www.iwu.edu/mellon-center/

Newsletter construction by Shea Atkins '23
Hispanic Studies
Secondary Education



Photography by: Jeff Cravotta

Julie Ballard in the Spotlight

IWU associate professor of lighting and sound design for the School of Theater Arts, Julie Ballard, has gone national! She has had the opportunity to work with three "incredible choreographers" in the nationally recognized Charlotte Ballet. These include Rena Butler, winner of the 2019 Princess Grace Award and featured in *Dance Magazine's* "On the Rise" feature; Ja'Malik, who is becoming an in-demand choreographer across the country; and Andrés Trezevant, who is a company choreographer for Charlotte Ballet. According to Charlotte Ballet's website their mission is to "provide artistically excellent programming to diverse audiences."

SAVE THE DATE!



- Monday, March 28: Proposals for the fall Faculty Colloquium Series due to melncntr@iwu.edu by 4pm
- Thursday, March 31: Faculty Colloquium and Reception: Dr. Kristine Nielsen "Disobedience in Sámi Artist Marja Helander's Film *Birds in the Earth*"

Dr. Nguyen Awarded External Grant to Research Wealth Disparities in America

Dr. Hieu Nguyen in the economics department has been awarded a research grant in order to further research on the wealth disparities in America. As a Principal Investigator from the Hayek Program for Advanced Study in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics at George Mason University's Mercatus Center, Dr. Nguyen will investigate the observation "that in advanced industrial economies such as the United States and Great Britain, the consequences of income and wealth inequalities have permeated in various aspects of everyday life. The consensus among income and wealth researchers seems to be that while some level of inequality might be conducive, especially in the way it rewards talent and effort, sustained inequality can fuel social conflict, slow economic growth, and be damaging to subjective well-being in the long run."



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It must be noted that this research is not completed and there are no results as of yet. "This work in progress is part of his larger research pipeline that explores the barriers and policy solutions toward a sustainable economic, education, and health ecosystem."

Dr. Gray on First Year Teachers in Crisis

Dr. Pennie Gray in the Educational Studies department has teamed up with Professor Sumer Seiki of the Teacher Education department at the University of San Francisco to publish the research article "Institutional Performativity Pressure and First-Year Teachers" (2020). The article details "[w]ays teacher educators and school administrators must work alongside beginning teachers to be a catalyst for systemic change toward student-centered learning and away from an over emphasis on student data driving perceptions of teacher merit" (Gray and Seiki, 2020). The research involved was extensive and thorough including interviews recent graduates of the same education program who had secured jobs in their field. (<https://doi.org/10.3389/feduc.2020.00071>)



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Dr. Leach and the Impact of Civic Engagement

Dr. Gavin Leach, the Associate Director of Innovation and Instructor in Business, seeks to explore pedagogical strategies related to civic engagement. "Today's college students want more engaged learning; activities, actions, and coursework that can be directly applied to the field of study (Finley, 2011). This predisposition can be advantageous to faculty if they are able to incorporate elements of civic engagement into their curriculum. The main objective [of this proposal] was to develop a sustainable civic engagement framework within academia. Some of the outcomes of this proposal include creating learning objectives, assessing current pedagogical practices, interdisciplinary connections, and opportunities to connect with local small businesses (Leach, 2022)." Dr. Leach's proposal " [Re] Design Your Course for Civic Engagement - Framework for Inclusive Teaching Excellence: Impact of Course Design" can be found in our Ames Library.



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In Other News...

Sharing your Scholarship!

SelectedWorks is the faculty and staff-focused portion of IWU's Digital Commons. It enables users to create a personal webpage to highlight their scholarly work. A SelectedWorks profile will enhance the discoverability of your publications, presentations, and research projects. Results from SelectedWorks often rank higher than other types of websites in search engine results. The included Author Dashboard allows you to access metrics including number of times materials were downloaded and where the downloads geographically originated from. For an example you can visit the dashboard for all of Digital Commons at IWU. You can also view examples of your colleagues' SelectedWorks pages here:

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You can use this link to create your own account or contact **Amy Sutter** (asutter@iwu.edu / x3728) in the Ames Library to have us set one up for you. We will also assist with exploring the publisher policies for posting full-text versions of your publications. If you have an existing account, but it hasn't been updated in a while, Amy can also help with that; sending her a current C.V. will begin the update process.

If you have any questions about SelectedWorks, or scholarly publishing in general, please contact **Chris Sweet**, Scholarly Communications Librarian (csweet@iwu.edu / x3984)

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