

Faculty of Arts and Humanities, Associate Dean's Newsletter for March 2016

In this month's edition of the Associate Dean's Newsletter, I'll be covering:

1. Intent to Register
2. Essay Season: What to do if you're sick when something is due
3. Plagiarism and other scholastic offences
4. How to get involved in the Arts and Humanities Students' Council
5. Apply to Graduate
6. Call for Volunteers to help out with Grade 11 Arts Day at Western
7. The Undergraduate Awards – submit your best work today!
8. Profile of our Academic Counsellor, Ben Hakala, in The Gazette.
9. AIESEC and professional internships abroad: an announcement

1. Intent to Register: Information Fair, March 15 1-4 in the IGAB Upper Atrium

The Intent to Register period continues. If you haven't done it yet, then please do it soon; if you don't, then you'll be last to register for your 2016-17 courses. It all ends March 31, 2016. The Arts and Humanities Students' Council is hosting an information fair for ITR in the Upper Atrium of the IGAB on March 15, 1-4 p.m. Faculty members and students from all Arts and Humanities departments will be on hand to answer your questions about our programs. We'll have some light snacks for you, too.

For more information about Intent to Register, please visit

<http://www.uwo.ca/arts/pages/Counselling/intent-to-register.html>

2. Essay season: What to do when you're sick when your assignments are due

Deadlines for major assignments are coming up fast. If you miss any of them you need to have a documented reason and you must bring that documentation to your academic counsellor first before talking to your professor, and please do so in a timely fashion. Your counsellor will take care of the rest. In the case of illness, please see a physician ASAP and get the proper medical documentation (download the Western University Student Medical Certificate on the Arts and Humanities website:

http://www.uwo.ca/arts/counselling/procedures/medical_accomodation.html). Don't wait until you're feeling better to see a doctor for a note since most will not issue one if you are not displaying symptoms.

3. Plagiarism and other scholastic offences

Please check out the Western Libraries webpage on plagiarism:

<http://www.lib.uwo.ca/tutorials/plagiarism> and make sure you understand what is and isn't plagiarism.

It is a scholastic offence and ignorance is not an acceptable defence. Every year we see incidents in which students don't think they are plagiarizing but they are. The usual penalty in these cases is zero on the assignment, with no chance to make up the grade. In more serious cases, penalties can range from an "F" in the course to expulsion from the University. You don't want to jeopardize your academic standing, so make sure you are familiar with how to cite your sources appropriately.

4. How to get involved in the Arts and Humanities Students' Council

Want to get involved with the Arts and Humanities Students' Council for the 2016/17 school year? The deadline for Department Representative nomination forms has been extended to Monday March 7th. Applications for general council positions are due on Monday March 14th. Nomination forms and applications can be found at www.ahscwesternu.com. For more information, contact: usc.ahsc.exec@uwo.ca!

5. Apply to Graduate

For all students who are eligible to graduate, please visit the Convocation information page (<http://www.convocation.uwo.ca/>), especially “preparing to graduate,” (http://www.convocation.uwo.ca/preparing_to_graduate/index.html) which outlines what you need to do to ensure that you receive your diploma and are eligible to walk across the Convocation stage. Most importantly, if you are unsure about the programs you think you are graduating with, please consult your academic counsellor sooner than later. The deadline to apply is April 30, 2016.

6. Grade 11 Arts Day: Call for Student Volunteers

On April 7 and 8 (the study days between the end of classes and the beginning of exams), the Faculty of Arts and Humanities is hosting grade 11 students from the Thames Valley District School board and the London Catholic School Board for a campus visit. During that time, the high school students will experience a series of mini-lectures from our faculty members. We are seeking student volunteers from Arts and Humanities to serve as classroom MCs for each group. You will be working with the Faculty and the school staff to help it all run smoothly. You will be responsible for a cohort of 35-50 students. If you're a graduate of a London high school that's attending, I'll make every effort to assign you to your alma mater. This is a unique opportunity to represent the Faculty of Arts and Humanities as an excellent choice for London high school graduates. If you are interested, please get in touch with me by responding to this email message or sending a message to artsada@uwo.ca. I hope to hear from you.

7. The Undergraduate Awards

Western International just announced Western will once again be participating in an international competition to recognize top undergraduate scholars. Simply called “The Undergraduate Awards,” this high-profile program is the world's largest pan-discipline academic awards program that identifies leading creative thinkers through their undergraduate coursework.

Last year, more than 5,300 papers were submitted from 255 top universities around the world, Western had the second-highest number of highly commended papers of any university, behind Trinity College Dublin. Twenty-seven Western students were selected among the highly commended (or top 10% of submissions), while students Jane Hutchison and Michelle Harder, received winning medals in the categories of Education and Pre-1710 Literature, respectively. All students were invited to attend The Undergraduate Awards three-day Global Summit in Dublin in November.

Dean Michael Milde (Arts and Humanities) attended the Global Summit and had this to say about the program:

“The Undergraduate Awards program offers an outstanding opportunity to showcase our students' talents and accomplishments. The competition gives their work international exposure in a context

where they are being considered alongside students from some of the best universities in the world. By inviting your students to participate, and by mentoring them through the final preparation of their submissions, you will be providing them with a unique and intensive educational experience.”

I am also happy to report that Western’s Arts and Humanities students fare very well in this competition.

How does it work?

The Undergraduate Awards is a non-profit organization based in Dublin, Ireland. The organization coordinates the call for submissions then recruits an international panel of academic experts to select the top 10% in each category. From those submissions the very top scholars receive an all-expenses-paid trip to Dublin to receive a medal and attend a three-day global summit with top undergraduate scholars from around the world. Winners will also have their work published in the Undergraduate Journal, which is circulated internationally.

Who is eligible to submit?

There are 25 categories ranging across disciplines in the sciences, arts and humanities, social science, and professional program areas. Students who are in their final year, or second-to-last year of an undergraduate degree program may apply.

Western is encouraging submissions from all Faculties on main campus as well as the Affiliate University Colleges. Part-time undergraduate students may apply as long as they have completed at least two thirds of their program.

Candidates can apply with any piece of individual coursework that received an ‘A’ grade or higher. Students may submit up to three individual pieces of work. There is no fee to submit your work.

For more information, including how to submit: <http://www.undergraduateawards.com/>

Questions may also be directed to the Western International office, care of:

Lise Laporte
Director of International Learning
lise.laporte@uwo.ca
519-661-2111 . 85489

8. Profile of Ben Hakala

And just in case you missed it, The Gazette profiled our very own Ben Hakala, whom many of you know from the counselling office. Serena Quinn, author of the lovely article, is a student in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities. You can read her profile of Ben here:

http://www.westerngazette.ca/life/profiles/helping-students-find-their-way/article_768a7c46-dccd-11e5-8208-6fc707a73d13.html

9. AIESEC and professional internships abroad: an announcement

Here is an announcement from AIESEC, a group that helps students find internships abroad:

Interested in completing an internship in another country? Want to travel and work this summer? AIESEC Western is currently seeking students to send abroad for a 6-8 week social internship or a 2-18 month professional internship. For Arts and Humanities students who want to experience the world, learn about new cultures, develop leadership skills, and build an extensive global network, AIESEC is the right platform for you.

To learn more about how AIESEC works and to find an internship that interests and fit you:

- 1) Like us on Facebook to get updates about our upcoming information sessions
- 2) Sign up so we can reach out to you

We look forward to hearing from you and bringing you on your next journey. Feel free to reach us at exchange.aiesecwestern@gmail.com if you have any questions.

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That's all for now. I wish you all the best success for the remainder of the term.

Tracy Isaacs, Associate Dean (Academic), Arts and Humanities