

Fall 2018 Issue of The Garnet Connection

1 message

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THE GARNET CONNECTION | Our Stories, Our Swarthmore

FALL 2018

Welcome to The Garnet Connection!

We share the stories and updates that matter to you. Check out past issues in our archive.

Community Happenings

Community Gathering Celebration



Faculty, staff, and students enjoyed a lively celebration of the start of the academic year at the Community Gathering on Sharples lawn. <u>Check out some photos from the afternoon</u>!

Gone—But Not For Long



Swarthmore is a place many of us not only love, but also keep coming back to. Alongside the many alums who return to campus as staff and faculty members, some of our most dynamic community members are retirees who remain involved with the College. Theresa Handley joined what was then called the Office of Personnel Services in 1990 and worked at Swarthmore until retiring in 2013. Today, she continues to offer her insight as a member of the Faculty Staff Benefits Committee. "I love being part of the Swarthmore community," she reflects. "It's just a very special place. People care about one another." Connie Baxter (second from the left, pictured with Tafadzwa Muguwe '05, third from the left), who joined the College in 1998 and worked in Advancement for nearly two decades before retiring in 2016, has been working part time in departments across campus since then. "When the call came asking if I would come back, I was happy to do so," she says. "My love of this special place will never expire!" Theresa and Connie are just some of the many retirees who remain vital participants in our community.



EVS Adopts Smart Inspect Tool

The Environmental Services (EVS) team recently adopted a new quality assurance tool,

Smart Inspect. The introduction of this tool to the team's workflow represents the first time a significant measuring device has been put in place to rate the cleaning quality on campus. This tool helps EVS measure campus cleanliness through offering on-demand data that can assist them in setting effective goals and pinpointing oppotunities for training and improvement. With the ambitious goal of exceeding industry cleanliness standards, the EVS team is excited for how Smart Inspect will help them continue to foster a healthy environment for our students, faculty, staff, and visitors.

Eduroam Access Expanded at the Inn at Swarthmore

Starting Monday, Nov. 5, ITS will take over management of the wifi network at the Inn at Swarthmore, allowing Swarthmore faculty, staff, and students to seamlessly access eduroam at the Inn, Campus & Community Store, and Broad Table Tavern. Since the Inn opened in 2016, eduroam has been available in only select areas of the building, causing some confusion and interruptions in access. This change will make it easier to hold meetings at the Inn, and generally provide an improved user experience for our community members. The Inn at Swarthmore will continue to run its Inn Guest wifi network for visitors not associated with Swarthmore or other eduroam member institutions.

Human Resources Updates

2019 Open Enrollment Season

This year's **Benefits Open Enrollment period runs from Monday, Oct. 22 through Friday, Nov. 9**. Open enrollment is an **active** process, which means you are required to confirm your benefits selections and dependent information online through our new benefits enrollment tool, Benefitfocus.

Benefitfocus Is Live for Open Enrollment

Benefitfocus, our new online benefits enrollment tool, lets you manage your medical, dental, vision, life insurance, and other benefits all in one place. Starting this Open Enrollment season, Benefitfocus will make the process of selecting, enrolling in, and updating your benefits a lot easier. <u>Reserve your spot for an Open Enrollment Assistance Session</u> to get support with navigating your benefits options and using Benefitfocus.

Your Benefits Now Include Telemedicine

You will soon be able to quickly and easily connect with a board-certified doctor over the phone, via video chat, or through your mobile app. If you're far from your doctor, you can still access quality care for non-emergency conditions like colds, allergies, aches and pains, ear infections, and more. Telemedicine is accessible with only a \$5 copay (\$40 copay for those enrolled in the High Deductible Healthcare Plan, until the deductible has been met), and enrollment is included for members of any College plan starting Jan. 1, 2019.

Events Calendar

2018–2019 Holiday Schedule



Faculty Staff Development Week Oct. 16–18



Benefits Wellness Fair Upper Tarble Tuesday, Oct. 30 10 a.m.–2 p.m.



All Staff Meeting Lang Concert Hall Thursday, Nov.1 10:30 a.m.–Noon



Campus Blood Drive Tuesday, Dec. 4 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Awards and Achievements

Jim Terhune Named Interim Dean of Students



<u>Jim Terhune joined Swarthmore as interim dean of students on July 30</u>. Jim has more than three decades of experience in student services, most recently serving as vice president

for strategic initiatives at Colby. As interim dean, Jim directs the Dean of Students Division and the Office of Student Engagement. He also oversees the Registrar's Office, International Student Services, Health and Wellness Services, Counseling and Psychological Services, Career Services, the Black Cultural Center, the Intercultural Center, the Interfaith Center, and the Center for Innovation and Leadership. Jim earned an A.B. in English from Middlebury and an Ed.M. in administration, planning, and social policy from Harvard.



Mark Anskis Earns Garnet Safety Award

This summer, Mark Anskis, interim director of communications, received Public Safety's Garnet Safety Award. Keeping our campus safe is a collaborative effort, and the Garnet Safety Award recognizes members of our community who have worked closely with Public Safety in responding to an issue on or around campus. Recipients can be nominated by any member of the Swarthmore community. To report an incident on campus, call Public Safety at 610-328-8333, or summon help through <u>the new LiveSafe app</u>.

Ed Rowe Named Chief of Staff and Secretary of the College



Ed Rowe has been named secretary of the College as well as Swarthmore's first chief of staff. Ed worked at Swarthmore from 2010–14, both at the <u>Campus & Community</u> <u>Store</u> and in the President's Office, and returns to our community after four years as director for projects and planning in the Office of the Chancellor at the University of Denver. As the secretary and chief of staff, Ed will provide executive support to both the Board of Managers and the President's Office, coordinating Commencement and nurturing the College's local and national partnerships. Ed received a B.A. in English from Penn State University and an M.S. in management from the University of Denver. He began his dual role Sept. 24.

16 Faculty Members Approved for Tenure-Track and Three-Year Appointment

This fall, 16 faculty members were approved for promotion by the Board of Managers. Six received tenure track appointments: James Blasina, Music; Vasanta Chaganti, Computer Science; Karen Chan, Biology; Sam Handlin, Political Science; Kathryn Riley '10, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Hillary Smith, Physics and Astronomy. Ten faculty and staff were granted three-year academic appointments: Rebecca Black '08, Mathematics and Statistics; Jason Box, Athletics and Physical Education; Tom Crawford, Mathematics and Statistics; Shani Evans, Black Studies; Youssef Ezzyat, Psychology; Molly Flaherty, Psychology; Tiffany Lee, Art; Stephanie Liapis, Dance; Benjamin Ridgway, Chinese; Joe Small '05, Dance.

Learn more about the work of each of these scholars.

Milestones

Phillip Stern '84, associate director for design and publications, Communications, recently had a sculpture included in <u>ArtPrize</u>, an international art competition and festival produced annually in Grand Rapids, Mich. Phil's piece, <u>Bat's Remorse</u>, was inspired by an image of a prehistoric



bat fossil, and explores how habitats and ecological shifts shape us all, from bats to humans.



Laurence Kesterson, photographer/videographer, Communications, had three images, *Times Square Baby*, *Angels* and *NYFlag* (left), selected for inclusion in Leica's *Master Shots* exhibition, which features the best in images produced with Leica cameras. *Times Square Baby* features Marina Tempelsman '10 and Niccolo Aeed '10, a comedy duo profiled in the fall *Bulletin*.



Georgina Texeira, associate director of HRIS and project management, Human Resources, completed the <u>Ironman Santa Rosa</u> 70.3 this past July. Georgina swam 1.2 miles, biked 56 miles, and ran 13.1 miles, all in 7.5 hours!

New Community Members

Get to know those who have joined us at Swarthmore since the last issue.

Resources

Employee Handbook

We encourage staff members to familiarize themselves with Swarthmore's policies, procedures, and benefits.

Magellan Mental Health

All College health insurance plans include benefits through Magellan, providing confidential support and resources to help you manage your mental health.

Carebridge Employee Assistance Program

Carebridge provides guidance and confidential referral services in areas as wide-ranging as financial management, continuing education, elder care, and mental health resources.

Health Advocate

Health Advocate offers experienced support with finding doctors, navigating your treatment options, and managing your healthcare costs.

Care.Com

Care.com is the world's largest online database for quality child care, adult care, pet care, and home care providers.

Lynda Learning Library

Lynda is an online learning platform with thousands of video-based courses on everything from photography to finance. Find Lynda on the ITS section of <u>The Dash</u>.

Staff Advisory Council

The <u>Staff Advisory Council (SAC</u>) is a group of elected and volunteer staff members who help foster listening and communication between staff and the College administration.



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