Welcome to The Garnet Connection!

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

Community Happenings

Staff Support the Class of 2019
Four staff members participated in this year’s Commencement ceremony. From left: Kate Campbell, Communications; Ursula Young, Environmental Services; Carolyn Saufley, Facilities; and Erin O’Connell-Massey, Career Services. Staff participation in Commencement became tradition in 2016, when the graduating class requested an opportunity to honor the bonds formed between staff and students during their time at Swarthmore. Congratulations to the Class of 2019!

Science Center Coffee Bar Reimagined

This summer, the Science Center Coffee Bar is undergoing a small but significant renovation. The newly updated coffee bar, opening this fall, will be a more unified and defined space, and will offer several new menu options. With Maxine Frank Singer ’52 Hall to be completed in summer 2020, enhancements to the Science Center Coffee Bar will begin to make food, drinks, and snacks more readily available in that area of campus.

Staff Advisory Council Welcomes New Representatives
Beginning this fall, the Staff Advisory Council (SAC) will have a new group of representatives, with Susan Eagar, Events Management, serving as moderator. SAC is a group of elected or volunteer members who serve in an advisory capacity to the President and the Vice President of Human Resources, and are available to Swarthmore staff and faculty members to help answer general questions or present suggestions anonymously at monthly SAC meetings. Different areas of campus—including Chester Road circle, Lang circle, Magill circle, Rose Garden circle, Scott circle, South circle, Tarble circle, and Whittier circle—each have one or multiple SAC representatives. You can find the full list of representatives on the SAC website. A big thank you to our most recent group of SAC representatives, especially co-moderators Diane Fritz, Biology, and Domenic Porrini, Facilities!

Human Resources Updates

2019–20 Tuition Grant Rates Now Available

Did you know that your children could be eligible for a grant to support their college education? Swarthmore’s tuition grant program helps your children meet their academic goals by offering partial tuition grants to the accredited college, university, junior college, or technical school of their choice. Learn more about the program and your family’s eligibility, and see the 2019–20 tuition grant rates on our webpage.

Update Your Address Electronically on MySwarthmore
Community members are now able to make address changes electronically via MySwarthmore. This new process replaces two paper forms: the Change of Address form and the Pennsylvania Residency Certification form used for local income tax purposes. To confirm or change your address quickly and easily, log in with your College credentials and look for the “Change Human Resources Address” link in the Employee Main Menu.

Events Calendar

**2019-20 Holiday Schedule**

- **American Red Cross**
  Swarthmore College Summer Blood Drive
  Inn at Swarthmore
  Monday, July 22
  10 a.m.–3 p.m.

- **Group Exercise Summer Class Schedule**
  June 3–Aug. 16

- **Fall Community Gathering**
  Friday, Sept. 27

Awards and Achievements

Swarthmore Recognized for Excellence in Sustainability
Swarthmore received an Excellence in Sustainability award from the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO). This award recognizes individuals and institutions that have demonstrated excellent and innovative sustainability leadership in a range of areas, including finance, facilities, operations, environment, community, and climate. NACUBO specifically recognized Swarthmore’s Carbon Charge program, noting the work of the Carbon Charge committee and the Ecosphere executive committee in making the College a leader in sustainability.

Libraries Celebrate 2019 ACRL Excellence Award

The Swarthmore College Libraries staff recently celebrated their 2019 Excellence in Libraries Award from the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL). The award was established in 2000 to honor the accomplishments of libraries demonstrating outstanding work in support of their institution’s mission. The Swarthmore College Libraries team was recognized for excellence in the areas of access and inclusion, academic rigor and creativity, and education for impact. “We are thrilled to receive this recognition of the fantastic work of the Swarthmore College Libraries staff,” said College Librarian Peggy Seiden. “Together, we continue to realize our dreams for what this library can be for our community—inclusive, risk-taking, innovative. This is a snapshot of a beautiful moment.” Check out their award-winning application!

Communications, Advancement recognized by CASE Circle of Excellence
The CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Circle of Excellence awards recognize work that advances an institution through innovation and creativity. Swarthmore was awarded a 2019 Gold Circle of Excellence award in the Design/Editorial Design category for the Spring 2018 issue of the Bulletin alumni magazine, Getting Lost in Color. Commended by the judges for its “exceptionally creative, fun, playful, and interesting” approach, the issue was designed by Phil Stern, associate director for design and publications. The College also received a 2019 Bronze Circle of Excellence award in the category of Fundraising Programs/Challenge Grants for the Rise Up with the Garnet Athletics Challenge, produced by Advancement in partnership with Athletics and Communications.

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**Milestones**

**Farid Azfar, History**, was invited to give remarks to the court on behalf of new citizens at his naturalization ceremony on April 30. He spoke of how the kindness of “chatty strangers,” an emotional attachment to history, and the legacy of the civil rights movement have all shaped his experience in the United States. The ceremony was attended by Nina Johnson, Sociology, Andrew Friedman, History, Haverford, and Asali Solomon, English, Haverford, who took the accompanying photo.

**Karen Borbee, Athletics**, was named the 2019 Tewaaraton Legend for her accomplishments in lacrosse. The Tewaaraton award honors the year’s most outstanding American college lacrosse player, and Legends are those who would have won the award had it existed during the years they played.
collegiate lacrosse. Karen will appear at the Sports Legends of Delaware County Museum’s Cavalcade of Stars Luncheon this fall to celebrate her win.

Cathy Cinquina, Chemistry & Biochemistry, became a first-time grandmother in April. Granddaughter Maggie resides in Chester County, with her parents, their three dogs, and two cats.

Susan Dreher and Pam Harris, Libraries, in collaboration with Laurence Kesterson, Communications, received an American Library Association 2019 PR Xchange Award for their film noir business cards. The project plays with genre, introducing visitors to our reference librarians and reimagining how we represent the figure of “the librarian.” The PR Xchange Awards honor the best in library public relations and marketing. Librarian Roberto Vargas is featured at left.

Jenny Honig, Music, and Charles Grafman welcomed a new addition to their family, Beatrice Rose Grafman, on May 30. Brother Neil and sister Margot are thrilled!

Bradley Kane, Advancement, and his partner, Krystin, welcomed son Cooper Declan Kane into the world June 14. He weighed 8 pounds 6 ounces, and was almost 22 inches long.

Jacqui Maben Ricchezza, Scott Arboretum, married Ron Ricchezza on June 1, at Hedgeleigh Spring garden in Swarthmore. This matchbox couple met at the 2015 Scott Arboretum Plant Sale!

Alice Turbiville, Finance, has been accepted into the National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) 2019–2020 fellowship program. This program offers training, support, and professional development for a select group of promising leaders in the area of higher education business and finance.
New Community Members

Get to know everyone who has joined Swarthmore since the last issue.

Andy Hirsch joined Swarthmore College as the new vice president for communications. Andy comes to us from Bucknell University, where he spent the past eight years, first as director of media communications and most recently as chief communications officer. Prior to his time at Bucknell, Andy was an Associated Press and Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist, earning a B.S. in both broadcast journalism and speech communication from Syracuse University. At Swarthmore, he will lead all areas of the Communications Office, including admissions communications, advancement communications, web and digital communications, media relations, and the Bulletin.

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 a wide range of areas, including financial management, continuing education, child care, elder care, mental health resources, and more.

Health Advocate

Health Advocate offers experienced support with finding doctors, navigating your treatment options, and managing your health care costs.
LinkedIn Learning

LinkedIn Learning (formerly Lynda.com) is an online learning platform with thousands of video-based courses on everything from photography to finance. Find it on the ITS section of The Dash.

Staff Advisory Council (SAC)

SAC is a group of elected and volunteer staff members who help foster listening and communication between staff and the College administration.

Faculty/staff enjoy 10 percent off every day! Faculty/staff meal plans start at $60!