Alvernia in the Community

A Common Heart: Sacred Texts Panel
February 9, 2011 at 7PM
Bernardine Franciscan Conference Center

Join Campus Ministry for an exciting evening of inter-religious dialogue surrounding the sacred books of the Jewish, Muslim, and Christian faiths. A special look at the account of Abraham & Isaac, from all three faith perspectives, will be a focus of interaction.

Panelists will include Rabbi Brian Michelson from the Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom, Rev. Philip Rodgers of St. Benedict Roman Catholic Church, and Dr. Khalid Blankinship, Professor of Religion at Temple University.

Although the panel discussion begins at 7PM, please come early to enjoy displays related to the three faith communities’ sacred texts. Doors open at 6:30PM. A question and answer period will follow the presentation.

Alvernia has partnered with several organizations for this event, including the Islamic Center of Reading, Reading Berks Conference of Churches, the Reform Congregation of Oheb Sholom, and the Church of St. Benedict. For more information please call the Reading Berks Conference of Churches at 610-375-6108.
Jim Siburt (theology) was interviewed by a theology and popular culture website about his current research and a paper he presented at the regional American Academy of Religion meeting and Semiotic Society of America conference last year. [Click here to read TheoFantastique online.]

Tom Bierowski (English) has a new book coming out this spring called Kerouac in Ecstasy: Shamanic Expression in the Writings. Published by McFarland, the text will consider Jack Kerouac as writer-shaman, exploring the content and ecstatic technique of the novels and two experimental volumes that represent critical phases of his development.

Tim Blessing (history) presented a paper on “The Theoretical Implications of Partisanship and Ideology Among Expert Raters of United States Presidents” to the American Politics Group in Oxford (UK) at the Rothermere American Institute, St. Anne’s College. The paper was written by Blessing, Anne Skleder, and Di You (psychology).

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**Alvernia in the NEWS...**

Click on the links below to follow recent Alvernia news coverage:

- **Reading Eagle 1-19-11**
  "Alvernia to consider adding football"  
  [Click here for the article.]

- **Reading Eagle 1-19-11**
  "Fall into Berkshire Mall fountain a YouTube hit"  
  [Click here for the article.]

- **Reading Eagle 1-23-11**
  "Alvernia’s Calabria earns 400th victory"  
  [Click here for the article.]

- **Go MAC Sports 1-25-11**
  "General Person of the Day: Tom Flynn, Alvernia President"  
  [Click here for the article.]

- **Berks-Mont 1-25-11**
  "It’s Schwank vs. Medaglia for the 11th District Senate seat"  
  [Judith Schwank is a former Alvernia Trustee; Larry Medaglia ’07 is an Alvernia MBA graduate.]

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**Attention Faculty:**

Are you interested in weighing in on topics in the news, like the stories above? Let us help you make a connection with the media. [Click here to fill out a media interest form.]

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**Faculty & Staff News**

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**Alvernia from the clouds...**

Courtesy of Ted Hershberger (business) this aerial photo shows Alvernia University’s campus covered in snow.

The local Kenhorst neighborhood is shown on the bottom of the photo, and the Upland Center is pictured in the top left corner.
GRYP COMMUNITY FAIR...

Mark your calendars for the 2011 Greater Reading Young Professionals (GRYP) Community Fair to be held Thursday, February 3, from 5:30PM to 7:30PM on the third floor of Vanity Fair Outlet’s Designer building.

Leadership Berks will be featured at the event, and more than 400 people are expected to attend.

Alvernia University’s Career Services department is sponsoring a shuttle bus to take students to and from the fair. (Please RSVP to Jen Dalton.)

Juniors, seniors, and graduate students are encouraged to attend. The event is an outstanding opportunity for students to connect to the local employer community and to get to know very successful young professionals in hundreds of companies here in the Greater Reading region.

For 25 years, Leadership Berks has provided an annual fair to assist nonprofit and community organizations to promote missions and market volunteer openings to Leadership Berks’ students, alumni and friends. This year, the Greater Reading Young Professionals are partnering with Leadership Berks.

The new format is expected to provide Leadership Berks with an opportunity to enhance its work with emerging leaders and nonprofit organizations. Don’t miss this great opportunity!

Alvernia University has been recognized by the Gardner Institute for its dedication to improving the first college year experience for its students.

Click here to view the Gardner Institute’s tribute to the 2010-2011 National Select Cohort in The Chronicle of Higher Education.

Find the print copy on page A20 of the Chronicle’s January 21, 2011 issue.

Rumor Has It...

You’re Invited to a Valentine’s Day Dinner at the Bernardine Franciscan Conference Center. The Bernardine Franciscan Sisters are delighted to host a Valentine’s Day Dinner on Monday, February 14, 2011 at 6PM. The menu will include: hors d’oeuvres, salad, filet mignon and crab cakes, sides, desserts, beer, wine and soda. Admission for this special event is $50 per person, or $275 for a party of six. Entertainment will be provided by Jennifer Michalik, the Alvernia Choral Ensemble, and harpist Alexandra Aloia. Please email the Conference Center or call (484) 334-6807 for details.

Does your office have extra supplies? Don’t throw them out. Post them on the S Drive, and give them a new home. Look for “Clare’s List” for the form.

What do you call fifty penguins in the Arctic?

Be the first to answer correctly!
Send your answer to:
Carey.Manzolillo@alvernia.edu

Bragging rights for last week go to Tom Minick (Institutional Advancement). Answer: An onion.