

**From:** [The Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence](#)  
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## February is here!

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back, I hope that the start of the semester has been a reinvigorating one!

As we move into February and consider the significance of Black History Month, many thanks to those of you making significant efforts to promote an inclusive, equitable learning experience for our students. If you are looking for information on how to make your teaching more inclusive, check out the resources available from the [Office of Diversity & Inclusion](#) and in [Library Guides](#) (many available, just click on Select a Topic Guide or start with the [Diversity & Inclusion Resources for Curricula Guide](#)). Or join **Yuki Okubo** on Wednesdays for coffee and a chat about ways to incorporate DEIB in your teaching. More information can be found [here](#).



## Good News and Appreciation to Share

- Please join me in congratulating **Dr. Gary Harrington** (English) who retired at the end of the fall semester. Congratulations Gary, and thank you for your contributions to SU and our students!

- The Daily Record recently named **Memo Diriker** (Marketing) among its [2023 Icon Honors recipients](#), recognizing the lasting impact he has had in business leadership and community involvement. As the Perdue School's founding director of BEACON in 1989, Memo spent the next 32 years building the applied research center into a regional leader, served as the principal investigator on over 500 research projects, and launched the careers of hundreds of students. We always knew you were an icon, Memo!
- Congratulations to **Melissa Boog** (Academic Affairs) for securing a \$216,000 federal grant which will support efforts to increase retention and success of first-year students at SU. For more information about the goals, which will include development of a peer mentorship program and academic advising training, the press release can be found [here](#).
- Congratulations to **Pat McDermott** (Management) who was selected to be a 2024-25 Distinguished Visiting Professor at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado!
- SU Alum/Athletics Hall of Famer **Dan Quinn** ('94) is trading in his SU maroon and gold for the burgundy and gold of the NFL's Washington Commanders as the team's new head coach!
- Many thanks to **Ellen Schaefer-Salins** (Social Work) for championing increased accessibility on campus! In partnership with the President's Office, resources and procedures are now in place to request sign language interpreters for University events and meetings. To do so, please click [here](#).
- Speaking of inclusion, January kicked off with a half-day event on "Empowering Education: Starting Your Journey into Inclusive Pedagogy, Identity, and Accessibility". Thanks to the engaged participants, the morning was filled with great discussions, ideas, and thought-provoking identity exercises. Much appreciation to those that attended and to my co-presenters and coordinators **Haley Cristea** (Instructional Design and Delivery), **Vanice Antrum** (Multicultural Affairs), **Candace Henry** (Disabilities Resource Center), **Sara Prebenda** (Instructional Design and Delivery), and **Angela Lookabill** (Academic Affairs).
- Congratulations to the thirty faculty chosen to participate in the first cohort of ACUE's Effective Teaching Practices certification! Couldn't swing it this semester? The [application portal](#) is open now to apply to be a part of the Fall cohort.
- Kudos to **Melissa Bugdal** (University Writing Center and English), **Stephanie Davis** (University Writing Center), **Olivia Imirie** ('22), **Carolyn King** (English) and **Beth Towle** (University Writing Center and English) whose collective efforts earned the SU Writing Program (First Year Writing, University Writing Center, and Writing Across the Curriculum) the competitive Certification of Excellence award from the Conference on College Composition and Communication! This award recognizes programs that

continuously innovate, support comprehensive faculty development, and apply best practices and rigorous assessment for meeting diverse student needs.

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

- Congratulations to **SU's Ethics Bowl Team** who once again showcased SU as a producer of ethical thought leaders at the northeast regional Association for Practical and Professional Ethics (APPE) Ethics Bowl. Many thanks to coach **Grace Clement** (Philosophy) and the many other faculty volunteers from the Department of Philosophy for supporting these talented students.

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## Upcoming Dates of Interest

- This month, join in honoring Black History Month by attending the many events across campus and virtually (details available on [Panorama](#) and SU's Cultural Affairs Facebook and [Instagram](#)).
- [Register now](#) for SU's 14th annual [Teaching & Learning Conference](#) to be held February 16th. Dr. Tim Stock and Dr. Sandy Pope, Distinguished Faculty Award recipients, will deliver the keynote presentation. The [schedule](#) is available online.
- A new seminar series, *Rediscovering Happiness Through the Disciplines*, highlights faculty as they share expertise to support student wellbeing and resilience. Sessions include: February 9, "Movies for Greater Happiness" with **Elsie Walker** (English); March 1, "Thriving (Not Just Surviving) in a High-Pressure Career: How Can I Make a Living and Still Enjoy Life?" with **Heidi Fritz** (Psychology); April 12, "Cultivating Joy in Learning" with **Erin Stutelberg** (Secondary and Physical Education); May 10, "Discovering Happiness Through Music" with **Jan Schreibman** (Music Therapy) and **Laurie Sherer** (Counseling Center). Co-sponsored by Fulton and SU's Counseling Center, the series will take place from 1-3 p.m. in the Commons, Worcester Room. While the content is aimed at students, SU employees are welcome.
- Save the Date: The Salisbury University Women's Forum will host the 8th annual conference, "Inspire Inclusion: It Matters," celebrating International Women's Day, on Friday, March 8, from 1-4 p.m. in the Commons, Worcester Room.

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## Funding Opportunities

- [University Student Academic Research Awards](#) (USARA), up to \$400, are available to help support undergraduate research projects and creative endeavors related to developing and conducting projects, with a faculty supervisor, and the presentation of

research/scholarly pursuits at national or regional meetings. Proposals are due on 2/16/24.

- [Graduate Research & Presentation](#) (RAP) Awards, up to \$750, are available to support graduate research and conference travel. Proposals are due on 2/15/24.
- The Maryland Open Source Textbook (MOST) initiative is seeking proposals for its Faculty OER Grant Program. The deadline is 3/1/24, information can be found [here](#).
- The [Faculty Mini-Grant Program](#) provides awards up to \$3,000 to encourage faculty to develop research, scholarly, or creative programs that provide the potential for sustained professional development and extramural support. Additionally, the program is intended to support faculty in areas that traditionally have difficulty securing funding to increase their research and scholarly activities output. Proposals to this program are encouraged from all five academic schools and Library. The deadline for applications is 2/26/24.
- **Building Research Excellence** program supports activities that will enhance the competitiveness of an application to be submitted to an external funding agency. Up to three awards will be given this year, each with a maximum of \$12,000. More information can be found [here](#).

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## Training, Opportunities, Resources and Reminders

- The Faculty Awards & Recognition Committee has called for nominations for **SU's Distinguished Faculty Awards**. See the 2/1/24 email from Randy Groth (sent from the Office of the Provost) for more information.
- First-generation graduates and allies: share your experiences and light the path! Please complete ODI's [First-Generation Faculty/Staff/Administration Survey](#) or share the [First-Generation Student Survey](#) with your students. Your input will help build an inclusive and supportive community for first-generation students here at SU.
- The USM Kirwan Center invites you to submit a proposal by February 12 for a statewide virtual showcase focused on integrating generative AI tools into student learning experiences. For more information, [please see the event page](#).
- A [call for proposals for the 2024-25 Elkins SoTL Fellowship](#) is now available. Learn more about fellowship requirements and expectations at the [virtual information session](#) February 8, 2:00–3:00 pm ET.
- The [National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity \(NCFDD\)](#)'s Spring 2024 **14-day writing challenge** begins February 26. Registration closes February 16 and can be found [here](#). New to NCFDD and want to learn how to sign up for your free institutional membership? Instructions can be found [here](#).
- Additional faculty development opportunities can be found on the [CAFE website](#).

- Take advantage of [SU Today](#) for a wealth of information on upcoming events, exciting opportunities, and essential campus communications. Bookmark the [Faculty SU Today](#) site for easy access.

As always, thanks for all you do!

Jessica

Jessica Clark, Ph.D.

*Assistant Provost for Faculty Success and Associate Professor of Biological Sciences*

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If you want to share information about events/activities of interest to faculty across campus, please send them to [CAFE@salisbury.edu](mailto:CAFE@salisbury.edu) at least three days before the first Monday of each month.

Date	Event
February 8, 2024	Roster Verification
February 8, 2024	Laridae Launch
February 13, 2024	Deadline to register for the Teaching & Learning conference
February 14, 2024	Staff Town Hall
February 15, 2024	Submission of promotion application (Round 2, promotion only) by faculty to department promotions committee (or CHHS school committee)
February 16, 2024	Deadline: University Student Academic Research Award (undergraduates)
February 16, 2024	Deadline: Research and Presentation Grant (graduates)
February 16, 2024	Annual SU Teaching & Learning Conference
February 19, 2024	Deadline: Fostering a Culture of Belonging course through ACUE
February 21, 2024	Safe Spaces workshop
February 26, 2024	Deadline: Faculty Mini Grants
March 1, 2024	Promotion recommendation (Round 1) from University Promotions Committee to Provost
March 1, 2024	Recommendation by department promotions (Round 2) committee to department chair (in CHHS, school committee to school director)
March 8, 2024	Justice & Equity Forum
March 9, 2024	Admitted Student Day #1
March 15, 2024	Promotion recommendation (Round 2) from department chair to dean (in CHHS, from school director to dean)
March 15, 2024	Sabbatical applications for Spring 2025 due to department chair/CHHS school director
March 22, 2024	Promotion recommendation (Round 1) from Provost to President
March 30, 2024	Promotion recommendation (Round 2) from dean to University Promotions Committee
April 6, 2024	Admitted Student Day #2
April 8, 2024	Department chairs/CHHS school directors send endorsements for Spring 2025 sabbatical applications to dean
April 15, 2024	Notification of promotion (Round 1) outcome to applicant by President
April 22, 2024	Promotion (Round 2) recommendation from University Promotions Committee to Provost
April 20, 2024	Admissions Open House
April 25, 2024	Safe Spaces workshop
May 1, 2024	Deans send endorsements for Spring 2025 sabbaticals to Provost
May 1, 2024	Promotion (Round 2) recommendation from Provost to President
May 15, 2024	Notification of promotion (Round 2) outcome to applicant by President
August 31, 2024	Deadline for final approval by President for Spring 2025 sabbaticals
Fall 2024	New Gen Ed begins
FY25	Middle States re-accreditation site team visit (likely Spring 2025)
FY25	SU Centennial



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**CAFE**

Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence

[www.salisbury.edu/cafe](http://www.salisbury.edu/cafe)

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PLEASE NOTE: Visitor parking permits are required to park at SU; please request a permit at [www.salisbury.edu/parking](http://www.salisbury.edu/parking)

SU is an Equal Opportunity/AA/Title IX university and provides reasonable accommodation given sufficient notice to the University office or staff sponsoring the event or program. For more information regarding SU's policies and procedures, please visit [www.salisbury.edu/equity](http://www.salisbury.edu/equity).

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