Delta College’s

Fantastic Faculty

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History professor and Humanities Learning Center Coordinator, Dr. Amy French, attended the "Liberal Arts Network for Development" Conference in Muskegon in February. There, she accepted a prestigious award, the Institutional Excellence Award, on behalf of the Humanities Learning Center. Only one institution wins this annual award and Delta's Humanities Learning Center won this year. The Humanities Learning Center was created by faculty in order to highlight the relevance of the humanities, make partnerships with other humanities organizations, and celebrate the vitality of the humanities. It is run by an advisory board with a coordinator directing its many activities. The Humanities Learning Center: creates programs for local K-12 students, presents a host of faculty-created brown bag talks, runs a summer camp—Hogwarts Express, offers digital humanities professional development opportunities for all scholars in the state through THATCamp (The Humanities and Technology Camp), encourages internships with local humanities organizations, helps with Pathway programs, promotes humanities events, offers book clubs, brings in speakers, holds advocacy days to encourage enrollment, and recognizes scholars through its Fellows program. The HLC is working on making Delta one of the state's leading institutions for digital pedagogy scholarship and the leading humanities institution in the Great Lakes Bay region.

Mark Brown (Instructor, English) presented a paper at the Rocky Mountain Modern Language Association Conference in Salt Lake City, UT during the first week of October. My paper, "Boyle and Bloom: Spiritual Differences Between Falling and Nightcrawler" examined the similarities and important differences between two films with very similar plot, setting, and characters but with very divergent styles and themes.

Professor of Art, Michael Glowacki, assisted AFA Graphic Design students taking Art 284 Typography this Fall worked with Bay County to create multiple logo design proposals for the Bay County TV channel (BCTV). You will soon be able to see Delta's Associate of Fine Arts student Emily Naert's chosen design in use by the local station. This is just one of many examples of the Art + Design program's collaboration with the surrounding tri-city communities.

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Dr. Laura Dull, History, chaired and contributed to a panel entitled “Cultivating Majors: Tuning, Transfer, and Lessons Learned,” at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, which was held in Denver January 4-8. The panel included historians from community colleges and public four-year universities across the country who were also participants in the AHA’s Tuning Project, funded by the Lumina Foundation and focused on creating disciplinary core outcomes for use by any history department in the United States.

Staci Rosales-McNier is a 2017 Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute graduate. As the current President’s Scholar, Staci teaches developmental reading, developmental writing, and composition. Staci promotes community service and literacy with innovative projects, such as “Little Free Lending Libraries.

In January, Psychology Professor Dave Baskind attended the four-day National Institute for the Teaching of Psychology in St. Pete’s Beach, Florida. The event is capped at 375 attendees and it involves educators from around the world.

Maureen Donegan, Psychology, had two former dual-enrolled psychology students compete in the annual Michigan State University Brain Bee Feb. 5th, in East Lansing. Although the students did not place they had fun testing their knowledge of the human brain and learning about the Neuroscience Undergraduate Program at MSU. Below is a picture of both students with me in the center. Ava Moore is pictured on the left and Ciara Mason is on the right.

Nancy Hartshorne, Associate Professor of Psychology, attended the Society for Neuroscience Conference in San Diego, California, from November 11-15, 2016, as a capstone to her sabbatical project. This fall, Dr. Hartshorne has been studying neuroscience at Central Michigan University, as an unpaid post-doc. She has been involved in doctoral-level coursework, and has participated in Dr. Gary Dunbar’s brain lab, working on a project with rats investigating possible treatments for both traumatic brain injury and stroke. She also worked with Delta’s ACE office to establish a neuroscience internship with the Field Neurosciences Institute in Saginaw for students interested in learning about this kind of work. Nancy will be continuing with the second-half of the neuroscience coursework during the Winter semester, while also teaching full-time.

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