Staff and Faculty Vocation Seminar (fall 2018)

This semester-long seminar provides ideas and resources for integrating faithful understandings of vocation, work, and human flourishing into our mentoring of students.

Meet other faculty and staff in a congenial group (always over delicious hors d’oeuvres and coffee) as we dig into our own vocations and get equipped to enhance our vocational mentoring of students, both formal and informal. Read more about the Staff and Faculty Vocation Seminar.

Highlights:
· Participants will receive a select resource library and $300 stipend.
· This is an opportunity to develop in the promotable areas of spiritual mentoring and institutional citizenship.
· Past participants have most appreciated the opportunity to get to know faculty and staff from across the college through these conversations.
· Topics include:
  o Biblical and theological perspectives on vocation
  o Vocational contexts and experiences of Generation Z
  o Challenges to student vocational development related to race, class, and gender
  o Cultivating institutional intelligence
  o Ways to help students find meaning and purpose in their present and future vocations

Meetings are scheduled from 3:30-5:00 p.m. on the following six Thursdays: Sept 6, 13, & 27; Nov. 1 & 15; and Dec 6. Apply for the fall ’18 seminar. This application will be open until spring break (application closes after Mar. 2).

*If the 2018-19 academic year is too long to wait, there are still seats available in the spring 2018 cohort of this seminar, which will meet 3:30 – 5:00pm on the following six Thursdays: Jan 11 & 18; Feb 15 & 22; Mar 22; and Apr 12. Apply for the spring seminar.

Opus Vocation Scholars

This year-long working group experience provides an opportunity to explore themes related to vocation and human flourishing in our scholarly work and collegial conversations.

Dig deeper into themes of vocation and flourishing as you write an original essay with a small, interdisciplinary group of colleagues. The Opus Vocation Scholars brainstorm, draft, and workshop together, discovering the resources of our disciplines for this conversation. Upon
completion, Opus provides opportunities to share the results of your research with the broader faculty in post-seminar presentation and discussion modes. Read more about the Opus Vocation Scholars program.

Highlights:

- Participants will receive a **stipend of $1,200** and funds to acquire relevant research materials.
- During their year in the program, each scholar will identify a topic, develop and workshop an approach, and finally, author an essay.
- Scholars will benefit from a lively context to present and receive feedback for their essays-in-progress.
- Examples of prior papers include:
  - *Placing Vocation: Attending to Place as Part of Vocation* by Karen Johnson
  - *Vocation, Institutions, and the Common Good* by Vince Bacote
  - *Vocationalizing the Imago Dei* by Marc Cortez
  - *Called to Rest* by Noah Toly
  - *The Neurobiology of Vocation* by Nate Thom
- Scholars may also be invited to present their paper for their colleagues at an Opus Lunch & Learn event in the year following their participation.

Meetings will be scheduled from 3:30 – 5:00pm on eight Tuesdays throughout the year. The schedule will be set with sensitivity to participants’ calendars. **Apply to be an Opus Vocation Scholar.** This application will be open until spring break (application closes after Mar. 2).

Again, **the deadline for the Opus Faculty Fellowship is only two weeks away—Dec 13.** Applications for the other two programs will be open until Mar 2. Please reach out to Ben Norquist at ben.norquist@wheaton.edu with questions.