

Oct. 19, 2023

Dear Colleagues,

Although I truly enjoy all of the seasons, autumn is certainly my favorite. Growing up on a farm harvest was always such a busy yet exciting time; not dissimilar to life on a university campus in the heart of fall. On both our Phoenix and Omaha campuses the change of season welcomes cooler temperatures and a great opportunity for many outdoor activities. I hope everyone is taking advantage of autumn as it always seems to be brief.

If you haven't already, please consider registering to attend the inaugural [Population Health Symposium](#), which officially launches the University's new Institute for Population Health. The Oct. 23 and 24 symposium features national and University presenters and is open to the public, so please invite others in the community to register as well. Population health encompasses all of the disciplines represented on our campuses and its focus on health equity is uniquely tied to Creighton's mission. Livestreaming is available for the Phoenix campus. The symposium will be a momentous event for our University, and I hope you will be a part of it.

In related news, faculty are also encouraged to apply for the [President's Fund in Population Health grants](#) through Nov. 17. Funding is for one or two years, up to \$25,000 per year. And, congratulations to the Center for Promoting Health and Health Equity, which is a superb example of Creighton living out our mission, on receiving a [\\$1M public health grant from the CDC](#). The grant funds the first year of a five-year cooperative agreement to promote nutrition, physical activity, immunizations and breastfeeding support among Omaha's Black and Latino communities. The CDC has funded 44 agencies across 28 states through this program, and Creighton is the only Nebraska awardee and among only 10 universities to have been awarded.

We are so proud that Creighton's new freshman residence, Graves Hall, is the first North American facility to use an [innovative solar thermal technology](#). This will significantly save the University water heating costs and assist in achieving sustainability goals. Congratulations to all those who helped make this possible.

One more reminder to all faculty and staff: Please take the time (approximately five minutes) to participate in the [annual employee census this month](#). Each fall semester this information is updated and is valuable to many key University processes. Thank you for your assistance.

Last weekend, I attended the AICU Chief Academic Officers Conference at Boston College

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

conference provides a fantastic opportunity for provosts and CAOs to highlight initiatives and discuss best practices and the challenges that we collectively face in today's higher education landscape. I was joined by colleagues from Marquette, Scranton, Gonzaga and Xavier University of Louisiana, featuring the achievements related to our campuses' student success initiatives. It was a great opportunity to share many of the wonderful things our faculty and staff are doing at Creighton!

Lastly, our hearts remain heavy over the violence in the Middle East. Let us continue to pray for an end to the inhumanity and a peaceful solution.



NIH Grants Awarded to Medicine Professors

Three School of Medicine professors have been awarded a combined \$6 million in National Institutes of Health grants to investigate drug-resistant asthma, how Lyme disease infects humans and how infectious prions causes fatal illnesses such as chronic wasting disease.

The three are [Yaping Tu](#), PhD, professor of pharmacology and neuroscience (asthma study), [Travis Bourret](#), PhD, associate professor of medical microbiology and immunology (Lyme disease study), and [Jason Bartz](#), PhD, professor of medical microbiology and immunology

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

projects.



Padilla to Present at U.N. Forum

René Padilla, PhD, vice provost for Global Engagement, has been invited to present his research at the United Nations High Commission on Refugees' triennial Global Refugee Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, on Dec. 12, 2023. Padilla's session, titled *Enhancing Sustainable Humanitarian Chains to Guarantee a Healthy Environment in Refugee Settlements*, was nominated by the UN's Middle East and North Africa Civil Society Network for Displacement as an innovative conditional cash transfer and triangular cooperation model that has demonstrated strong outcomes with Syrian and other refugees.

Knight Research in Accounting Journal

The research manuscript titled "How Remote Work is Affecting the New Generation of Auditors and Audit Quality" co-authored by **Maggie Knight**, DBA, was accepted for publication in the *Journal of Forensic and Investigative Accounting*.



Research and Scholarship Internal Grant Opportunities

The associate vice provost for Research and Scholarship, along with the Center for Faculty Excellence, held an Internal Grant Program Panel focused on many internal grant opportunities: Center for Undergraduate Research and Scholarship, **Amanda Holman**, PhD; Haddix President's Faculty Research Fund, **Barbara Bittner**, MA; Kingfisher Institute, **Charise Alexander Adams**; Institute for Population Health, **Scott Shipman**, MD; and Center for Faculty Excellence, **Lou Jensen**, OTD, OTR/L, Center for Faculty Excellence. [Watch the panel presentation](#). [Find more on internal grant opportunities](#).



Divis Appointed to Medical Library Journal Board

Deborah Divis, health sciences librarian, has been appointed a

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



(JMLA) Editorial Board. The appointment continues through May 31, 2026. Divis also has been selected for the second cohort of the *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education's* Reviewer Mentorship Program.

Two Law Faculty Present at Climate Symposium

The law school's **Victoria Haneman**, JD, the Frank J. Kellegher Professor of Trusts and Estates, and **Michael Kelly**, JD, the Sen. Allen A. Sekt Endowed Chair in Law, presented papers Sept. 29 at Case Western Reserve University's [Climate Change Symposium](#) on the "Right to a Healthy Environment," recognized last year by the United Nations General Assembly. Haneman authored "Taxing Dirty Luxuries," and Kelly authored "The Right to a Healthy Environment: Underlying Policy Formation Challenges in the U.S. During the Trump Era."

Marcoux Co-Authors Book

Heider faculty member **Alexei Marcoux**, PhD, co-authored a book with Chris MacDonald, PhD, titled *The Concise Encyclopedia of Business Ethics*, which is [now available in a new PressBook-format edition](#).



New Makerspace Successfully Launch This Fall

Makerspace, part of the IDEA Hub and located on the first floor of Reinert-Alumni Memorial Library, successfully launched this fall. Makerspace offers design assistance, training and access to many kinds of fabrication and crafting technology, including a laser cutter and engraver, 3D printers, desktop vacuum thermoformer, and more. Faculty and staff leading recent projects include: **Gabe Rivera**, PhD, and **Ehren Whigham**, both in biology; **Lora Kaup**, theater; **Mikaela Harvey**, military science; and **Alex Myers**, computer science, design and journalism. [Read more](#).



Sustainability Office Invites All to Webinar on Sustainable Labs

Andrew Baruth, PhD, director of the Office of Sustainability Programs, invites Creighton faculty, students and staff to attend

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE) webinar Nov. 8 on methods for “greening” up lab space: [What Is Sustainable Science, and How Can We Green Our Labs?](#)

Haneman Quoted in *New York Times*

Professor **Victoria Haneman** in the School of Law was quoted in [a New York Times article](#), providing expert commentary on sizable art transactions that may have been uniquely structured to avoid taxes by Jeffrey Epstein.

Business Faculty Award Ceremony and Newly Named Hendrick Award

The Heider College of Business recognized the following faculty and staff at the inaugural Heider College of Business Award Ceremony Sept. 28. The college award for excellence in service was renamed the Hendrick Award in recognition of the tremendous service, above and beyond, by its namesake Colleen Hendrick. Awardees include:



Derek Kruse, DBA, Adjunct Faculty of the Year; **Nalini Prabakaran**, PhD, Excellence in Tenure Track Teaching; **Timothy McMahon**, PhD, Excellence in Non-Tenure Track Teaching; **Amy Parrish**, JD, Excellence in Student Advising and Mentorship; **Terry Fischer**, Excellence in Innovation; **Angie Wayman**, Staff Member of the Year; **Natalie Gerhart**, PhD, Excellence in Scholarship; and **Colleen Hendrick**, Hendrick Award, Excellence in Service.

Goodman Named Nebraska Family Physician of the Year

Mark Goodman, MD, professor in the Department of Family Medicine in the School of Medicine, has been named the 2023 Nebraska Family Physician of the Year by the Nebraska Academy of Family Physicians (NAFP). [Read more](#).

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Curran Named New Director of Global and Community-Based Learning

Lizzy Curran has been named director of the Office of Global and Community-Based Learning beginning Nov. 1. The position is part of the rebranding of the Office of Academic Service-Learning, focusing more intentionally on a core component, the implementation and assessment of global learning, and reports within the Global Engagement Office. [Read more.](#)

Great Plains IDeA-CTR Resources and Funding

The Great Plains IDeA-CTR is a collaborative effort between nine regional institutions, Creighton being one of them. The IDeA-CTR strives to provide training, education and mentorship; tools and resources; and funding to regional researchers. As one of the partners in this group, the AVP for Research and Scholarship encourages all Creighton faculty to [explore available resources and funding opportunities.](#)

New Humanities Research Lab Created

Zachary Smith, PhD, associate professor in the theology department, and the Kingfisher Institute for the Liberal Arts and Professions, helped create a new humanities research lab at Creighton. [Learn more.](#)



Ignatian STEM Webinar on Tuesday, Oct. 24

Register for the webinar “Ignatian STEM: What difference can a Jesuit education make?” scheduled for Oct. 24 from 1:30-2:45 p.m. CDT, 12:30-1:45 p.m. MST. Presenters from University of San Francisco, Marquette University, Loyola University Chicago and more will discuss how faculty and students can undertake STEM work in a Jesuit context, navigating the empirical commitment to science and the ethical imperative to advocate for the marginalized and protect the vulnerable. [Read more and register.](#)



Sieberson Publishes Novel

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.



Fifteenth Commandment, is being published this month by North Dakota State University Press. Sieberson previously authored two nonfiction travel-adventure books.

Center for Faculty Excellence News and Programs

Faculty and professional staff who teach are invited to **submit grant proposals which support newly initiated or early-stage assessment of student learning**, Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), and related faculty development projects. Grants of \$500 to \$2,000 are awarded competitively to those who teach or work with collaborative teams. Review of proposals begins Nov. 8, 2023. [Read more.](#)

A new **Blueline site, Generative AI Resources**, is an important resource for faculty. It houses curated, regularly updated resources faculty can easily access in one centralized location to stay current and informed. [Enroll in the course.](#)

There are four upcoming **October Faculty Development Programs**. [Register via Bridge.](#)

- Oct. 25: Google for Academic Research: Advanced Tips and Tricks
 - **Rachel Menzel**, Research and Instruction, University Libraries
- Oct. 26: Seeking Primary Source Materials: Archives Unbound and More
 - **Rose Melonis**, Research and Instruction, University Libraries
- Oct. 27: An Introduction to Generative AI for Educators
 - **Steven Fernandes**, PhD, Computer Science, Design and Journalism
- Oct. 31: ResearchWorks: Creighton's New Research Platform
 - **Rose Fredrick**, Research and Instruction, University Libraries

Research and Scholarship Fall Networking Event, Nov. 7

The associate vice provost for Research and Scholarship and the Center for Faculty Excellence invite all faculty to a fall networking event. Please join colleagues on Nov. 7 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. in the Harper Center, Ahmanson Ballroom, to discuss “Research Resources and Building Your Research Skills.” Appetizers and drinks will be provided. Watch for more details soon.

Preparing for Fall/Winter Vaccine Season

Maureen Tierney, MD, and **Anne O’Keefe**, MD, provide some guidelines to help make decisions when seeking vaccines to help protect against serious respiratory illnesses. Read the guidelines. [Read the guidelines.](#)



[Subscribe](#) to our email list.

Fall Updates from Omaha Campus Dining

Creighton Dining has been working hard this fall to provide students, faculty and staff with great dining options. With renovations to Wareham Court in the Skutt Student Center, Dining has partnered with Firehouse Subs and Qdoba to provide a retail dining tent on ConAgra Plaza, serving an average of 600 people daily, in addition to its new offers at Harper Dining Hall and McGloin Market. [Read more and find hours and menus.](#)

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mardell A. Wilson".

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost, Creighton University

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

2500 California Plaza | Omaha, NE 68178 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.