

Dear Faculty and Staff,

As I drove in this morning it was so nice to see campus beginning to turn shades of green with a few yellow jonquils dotting the mall! It is also great to see the final touches being applied to the fountain in front of St. John's Church as well as the Jerome Nadal Residence which had the cross installed just yesterday.

First, let me congratulate our fourth-year medical students in Omaha and Phoenix who celebrated Match Day on March 17, with 95% matching in the specialty of their choice! Match Day is a significant milestone in the lives of our students, their families, and the faculty and staff who have guided them to this achievement. Well done all!

Last Saturday I had the privilege of attending the [BIG EAST Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium](#), held March 16 at Madison Square Garden in New York. For the third consecutive year, a Creighton student placed among the top three. What a wonderful display of student talent and faculty mentoring. Congratulations to Grace Jaworski for her poster that exhibited her study on nucleosome assembly proteins, mentored by **Lynne Margaret Dieckman, PhD**, associate professor of chemistry and biochemistry. I am very grateful to the other Creighton student participants as well as faculty who helped judge and organize the poster session. This is a signature event for the BIG EAST conference, and we are privileged by their support of our student researchers as well as our student athletes.

Speaking of student athletes, men's and women's basketball teams are both dancing in the NCAA Tournament. Our men's team will play **today** in Pittsburgh at 12:30 p.m. CDT as the No. 3 seed against 14th-seeded Akron. Our women's basketball team, receiving a No. 7 seed, will take on 10th-seeded UNLV in Los Angeles at 6 p.m. CDT on Sunday. I hope your brackets are complete and we see our Creighton teams playing deep into April. Go Jays!

Looking ahead, the next couple of weeks are filled with activity. First, our [annual University Research Week](#) will be celebrated next Tuesday and Wednesday, March 26 and 27, in Omaha and Wednesday, March 27, in Phoenix. What a fantastic event that highlights the tremendous scholarly efforts of our faculty.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for the annual Waite Chair Lecture on Tuesday, March 26, in rooms 2057/2058 of the Harper Center. The **Rev. S. Ignacimuthu, SJ, PhD**, the 2023 Waite Chair, is a world-renowned scientist and academician. His address will focus on "The Works of

Following Easter break, I am excited that Creighton will host a two-day public conference on science and faith on Thursday, April 4, and Friday, April 5. The conference was developed by faculty members **Gintaras Duda, PhD**, the **Rev. Chris Krall, SJ**, and **Tricia Ross, PhD**, through a Creighton Mission Innovation Grant and is sponsored by Creighton University, the Kripke Center for the Study of Religion and Society and the Kingfisher Institute. [Learn more about the “Reconciling Science and Faith Conference: Contemplating Reason and Relationship” and register to attend.](#)

In closing I would like to congratulate the many faculty and staff we recognized for milestone service achievements at Tuesday’s Faculty & Staff Awards. Faculty President Mary Ann Danielson did an excellent job taking us down memory lane as we recalled what was happening on campus and around the nation when various members started their careers at Creighton. We also recognized those outstanding faculty and staff who earned individual awards for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Service, and Emeritus status. It was a terrific afternoon!

Yesterday I had the privilege of teaching a lecture on Nutrition and Cardiovascular Disease to our first-year medical students in Omaha. It has been quite some time since I have been in a classroom. But I was quickly reminded of the passion I have for students and the deep respect I have for my faculty colleagues. Although I had to dust off a few cobwebs as I spent several hours prepping and validating the current trends and facts, it was a lot of fun! Thank you, **Michael Del Core, MD**, for the invitation.

Wishing you all a blessed Easter!



## **Ellis Receives Award from Pace University**

**Leigh Ellis, JD**, assistant professor of law, received the Shining Star Award from Haub Law at Pace University. This award recognizes up-and-coming leaders in the Haub Law alumni community in legal practice who have made significant contributions to the profession, their organizations and the community early in their careers. [Read more.](#)

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## **National Public Health Week**

April 1-5 is National Public Health Week. Participants are encouraged to participate in [available sessions](#) to engage meaningfully with public health.



## Lied Gallery Features Students' Medical Humanities Exhibit

The Lied Gallery is featuring "A Portrait of Medical Humanities: Artwork by the students of Creighton University," an exhibition of a collection of work by students enrolled in the University's School of Medicine (Omaha and Phoenix campuses), School of Dentistry, physician assistant program, occupational therapy program, College of Nursing and College of Arts and Sciences. The exhibition is free and open to the public. It opens on March 22 and runs through April 14. [Read more.](#)

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## Faculty Inducted as National Academies Distinguished Fellows

**Amanda Kirkpatrick, PhD, RN**, associate professor of Nursing; **Kim Begley, PharmD, RPh, FNAP**, professor of Pharmacy and CIPER director of curriculum; and **Julie Peterson, PT, DPT, EdD, FNAP**, associate professor of Physical Therapy, were inducted into the National Academies of Practice (NAP) as distinguished fellows. Distinguished fellows are recognized leaders in both their profession and in interprofessional care. They were inducted during the Annual Meeting and Forum March 15-16, 2024, in Jacksonville, Florida, where Kirkpatrick presented "Barriers & Priorities in Advance Care Planning Education: An IPE Perspective from Faculty & Students" and Begley presented "Bridging Health Divides: Implementing Social Determinants of Health Ethical Dilemmas into Interprofessional Care Studies."

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## Weber Presents on Name, Image and Likeness in College Athletics

**David Weber, JD**, professor of law, presented at the [annual joint meeting of the Omaha Bar Association and Metro Omaha Medical Society](#) on March 5. Weber co-presented with attorney Tyler Seals, JD'17, on "Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) in College Athletics."

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## Haneman Serves as Panelist at Wake Forest University

**Victoria Haneman, JD, LLM**, professor of law and the Frank J. Kellegher Professor of Trusts and Estates, served as a panelist at the Wake Forest University School of Law's The Future of Death Care in America Symposium on March 1 in Winston-Salem, N.C. [Read more.](#)



## Zallocchi Featured on KETV for Hearing Loss Research

**Marisa Zallocchi, PhD**, assistant professor of microbiology in the School of Medicine, has made strides in preventing hearing loss in fish. Her research, highlighted in a story by *KETV*, could result in medication to help protect those undergoing cancer treatment or in the military. [Read more.](#)

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## Center for Faculty Excellence Schedules Presentations

Join faculty and professional colleagues for two upcoming Center for Faculty Excellence (CFE) programs. "Faculty Development Grants Presentations" will be presented by five [2023-2024 teaching/research grant teams](#), including 13 faculty, one staff and one student from Omaha and Phoenix campuses, covering project discoveries, challenges and more, on Monday, March 25. [Register in Bridge.](#) "Intersectionality: Combined Impacts of (Dis)Advantaged Identities on Teaching, Learning, and Belonging" will be presented by **Erika Dakin Kirby, PhD**, professor of communication studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, in relation to the outcome of the 2021 Campus Climate Survey, on Thursday, March 28. [Register in Bridge](#)

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## Tampi Receives Diversity Award

**Rajesh Tampi, MD**, chair of the Department of Psychiatry, Inaugural Bhatia Family Endowed Chair in Psychiatry and professor in the School of Medicine, received the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry's Diversity Award, honoring him as an individual in geriatric mental healthcare who demonstrates innovation and sensitivity to serve elderly minorities or under-served populations. [Read more.](#)

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## Iyer to Represent Creighton at 3MT Competition

The Graduate School hosted its annual Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition on Feb. 22. **Shruthi Iyer**, doctoral degree candidate in pharmacology and neuroscience, under the mentorship of **Kristina Simeone, PhD**, associate professor in the Department of Pharmacology and Neuroscience in the School of Medicine, received first prize. Sannidhi Poojary, master's degree candidate in pharmaceutical sciences, under the mentorship of **Alekha Dash, PhD**, professor of pharmacy in the School of Pharmacy and Health Professions and Gilbert F. Taffe, Jr. Endowed Chair, received second. Iyer will represent Creighton at the 3MT competition held in

April. [Read more.](#)

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## Senda-Cook Explores Fieldwork and Ontologies of Time in Recent Article

**Samantha Senda-Cook, PhD**, professor and chair of communication studies in the College of Arts and Sciences, recently published an article titled, "The Privilege of Control and the Constraint of Presence: Fieldwork and Ontologies of Time" in *Cultural Studies <=> Critical Methodologies*. [Read more.](#)

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## Discount on Group Fitness Memberships

Recreation and Wellness is offering 50% off group fitness memberships for the remainder of the spring semester—just \$12.50. [Read more.](#)

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## Shipman to Deliver WWAMI Keynote

**Scott Shipman, MD, MPH**, executive director of Creighton's Institute for Population Health and CyncHealth Endowed Chair of Population Health, will deliver a keynote address on April 12 during the 2024 Montana WWAMI (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) Faculty Development Conference in Paradise Valley, Montana. His presentation is titled "Health in Rural Communities: Workforce-related Trends and Opportunities." [Read more.](#)

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## Kelly Blog Posted on West Point's 'Articles of War' Site

**Mike Kelly, JD**, professor of law and the Senator Allen A. Sekt Endowed Chair in Law, wrote a blog on the recent international criminal court arrest warrants that were recently issued. "Ukraine Symposium—New ICC arrest Warrants for Russian Flag Officers," was published on [West Point's Lieber Institute Articles of War](#).

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## Match Day 2024

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Creighton University School of Medicine, who oversees the match process of our fourth-year medical students, reported that of the 164 students matching, 95% matched into their top specialty of choice and 100% received placement into residencies or fellowship programs. Students matched into 19 specialty areas in 29 states and the District of Columbia. Congratulations to all our students. [Read more.](#)

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## Faculty Searches to Utilize Interfolio

Faculty and Academic Affairs is excited to announce that Creighton will use Interfolio for faculty searches. Those who may serve as a search committee chair or member in the near future or who are curious about how to use the tool are invited to attend the training session scheduled for Friday, April 19, from noon to 1 p.m. CT. [Read more.](#)

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## Myslinska Presents at Hamad Bin Khalifa University

**Dagmar Myslinska, JD**, associate professor of law, presented on "Discovery in US Civil Trials" to a class on Comparative Civil Procedure at Hamad Bin Khalifa University in Qatar.

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## Johnson Talks Surge in Consumer Sentiment with CNBC

**Robert Johnson, PhD**, professor of finance in the Heider College of Business, [spoke with CNBC about surging consumer sentiment](#). In the article, "5 charts that show why Americans are currently in a better place 'both economically and psychologically,'" Johnson's expert comments help readers understand why Americans are feeling more optimistic about the economy.

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## Guthrie Named Cohen Endowed Chair

**Tim Guthrie, MFA**, professor of computer science, design and journalism, has been named the new holder of the Joella Cohen Endowed Chair in Journalism beginning July 1. The Cohen Chair recognizes a faculty member with a record of excellence and a focus on innovation in teaching journalism. Guthrie is an award-winning multimedia visual artist and filmmaker who has

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for his work. He has also presented his film and multimedia work nationwide and internationally, including at the Sorbonne in Paris, France.

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## DiLeo Publishes on Catholic Decarbonization

**Daniel R. DiLeo, PhD**, associate professor of cultural and social studies and director of the Justice and Peace Studies Program in the College of Arts and Sciences, recently had an article published in *National Catholic Reporter*. "Every bishop should decarbonize his diocese — and other Catholics can help" outlines the theological foundations and pastoral opportunities of diocesan decarbonization commitments. It also suggests how Catholics can engage their bishop to advocate for this action. [Read more](#).

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## Medicine's *Laudato Si'* Distinguished Lecture

Creighton's School of Medicine and the Office of Continuing Education recently hosted a distinguished lecture and reception with Cecilia Sorensen, MD, director of the Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education at Columbia University. Her lecture, "Health Professional Action in the Climate Crisis," explored the current climate impacts on health, the impacts on health sector activities and ways in which health professionals are called to action.



Pictured, from left, are: **Mark Reisbig, MD, PhD**, associate professor of anesthesiology, School of Medicine; **Scott Shipman, MD, MPH**, executive director of Creighton's Institute for Population Health; Sorensen; **Tom Svolos, MD**, associate dean for strategy and accreditation and professor of psychiatry, School of Medicine; and **Maureen Tierney, MD**, associate dean of clinical research and public health and chair of clinical research and public health. School of Medicine.

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## Morse Discusses Property Taxes in Wallet Hub

**Edward Morse, JD**, professor of law and the McGrath North Mullin and Kratz Chair in Business Law, was interviewed by [Wallet Hub](#) about states with the lowest and highest property taxes.

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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

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