

Lewis & Clark College

Board of Alumni

Academics Report

Academics Liaison: Chris Scheffler

June 2018

I met with Bruce Suttmeier, Interim Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, in April to discuss any prominent news among the faculty, the BoA, and areas where we could further collaborate. Main notes include:

- I will attend the opening faculty meeting for the 2018 – 2019 school year to address the faculty directly (September). I may start attending once to twice per term.
 - The Board is looking for more faculty participation in nominations for alumni awards.
 - I would like to identify opportunities for alums to be involved in the classroom, whether that be guest lectures, consulting on specific projects, etc. Both agree it needs to be tangible, unique to each situation, and we should leverage the career center in identifying alums.
- Main new focus from faculty: working with Admissions on recruitment + retention.
 - Website improvements for prospective students.
 - Standardize class visits and follow-up communication (good improvement).
- New programs: Neuroscience and Middle Eastern / North African studies.
 - Arabic added as a regular language course.
- Northwest 5 Consortium (NW5C) is a program sponsored by the Mellon Foundation that was founded in 2013. The program connects faculty and staff from 5 PNW universities to share knowledge, discuss issues, and attend joint trainings. Bruce said it is incredibly helpful to know your counterparts and be able to communicate with them on issues.
 - Schools include: LC, Reed, UPS, Whitman, and Willamette.
- Overall feeling from the faculty is that the new president has been well received.
 - He is holding staff only office hours, which is appreciated and being utilized.
- Some of the overseas programs, which were not filling up, are being opened to students from other schools.
 - Ex. Munich, Morocco.