

DFA

Dalhousie Faculty Association

News You Can Use

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News You Can Use is a monthly e-bulletin featuring DFA news and links to items of interest to Dalhousie academic staff. If you have news we can use, contact us at communications@dfa.ns.ca.

Call for Nominations: DFA Executive Committee

The 2016 Annual General Meeting of the DFA will take place on **Wednesday, May 4 at 2 p.m.** (location to be confirmed). The 2016-17 DFA Executive Committee will take office at the close of that meeting.

The deadline for submitting nominations for the Executive is **Tuesday, April 19** at 4:30 p.m. Open positions will be filled by an election (if necessary) during the period from Monday, April 25 to Friday, April 29.

Click the link for the Call for Nominations and nomination form.

[Click here](#)



2016 Olivieri Lectureship: Jocelyn Downie to speak at Dal on April 21

Jocelyn Downie, Professor in the Faculties of Law and Medicine, will present this year's Olivieri Lectureship in Medical Ethics at Dalhousie on Thursday, April 21. She will speak on the topic "Assisted Death in Canada: Where are we? How did we get here? Where are we going?" The lecture, sponsored by the Harry Crowe Foundation, will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Room C170 of the Collaborative Health Education Building (CHEB).

[More info...](#)

The university president as CEO

The recent resignation of the president of a private liberal arts college in Maryland has drawn attention to the growing number of university presidents hired from the business world. After a career in the financial sector, Simon Newman was appointed to head Mount St. Mary's University, but resigned amid widespread controversy over his leadership. According to an article on the website ThinkProgress, 20 per cent of U.S. university presidents come from outside academia. Now faculty and students are pushing back. Click the link to read the article.

[Click here](#)

Making a case for the liberal arts

University administrators and faculty members from across Canada came together in Montreal recently to discuss the future of the liberal arts. Their conclusion: the humanities and social sciences are as relevant as they have ever been, if not more so; they just have a public relations problem. Check out the coverage

of the event in *University Affairs*.

[Click here](#)

Sexism in the academic workplace...

It may be 2016, but according to Robin Vose, President of the Canadian Association of University Teachers, sexism is still alive and well in the academic workplace. In the March issue of the CAUT Bulletin, which was devoted to gender equality issues in honour of International Women's Day, Dr. Vose writes about a variety of inequities that still persist. Click the link to read his article.

[Click here](#)

...and in science

Although a growing number of women are involved in scientific research, a study by a team of U.S. researchers shows that subtle gender gaps continue to exist. The team, headed by Indiana University Associate Professor of Informatics Cassidy R. Sugimoto, found that women are disproportionately providing the "labour of science" -- pipetting, centrifuging, sequencing -- while men are more likely to be credited for analyzing data, conceiving experiments or writing studies. Read this article in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* to find out more.

[Click here](#)

Research links from around the world

Each month, *News You Can Use* will highlight several examples of new and interesting research taking place at universities around the world.

["A programming language for bacteria" \(Massachusetts Institute of Technology\)](#)

[How social class is portrayed in movies for children \(Duke University\)](#)



Using colour filters to improve reading in children with dyslexia (University of Oxford)

Aging and the income gap (Rutgers University)

Can broccoli make cancer drugs more effective? (ETH Zurich)



Books you can use:

Academic Freedom in Conflict

What is academic freedom? What are its limits and challenges? Where has it been and where is it going? These are some of the issues explored by the 16 Canadian and U.S. contributors to *Academic Freedom in Conflict: The Struggle Over Free Speech Rights in the University*, edited by former CAUT Executive Director James L. Turk.

[More info...](#)

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