



Spring 2018 Issue of The Garnet Connection

1 message

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THE GARNET CONNECTION | *Our Stories, Our Swarthmore*

SPRING 2018

Welcome to the New Garnet Connection!

We've changed our look but are still sharing the stories and updates that matter to you.
Check out past issues of *The Garnet Connection* [in our archive](#).

Community Happenings

Thank You to Our Winter Heroes

We're so grateful to those in our community, including the staff in Athletics, Auxiliary Services, Dining Services, EVS, Facilities, Grounds, ITS, the Libraries, OSE, Public Safety, and members of the faculty, who helped ensure our campus remained safe and operational through the rain, wind, and snow this blustery winter season!

Holding Space for One Another

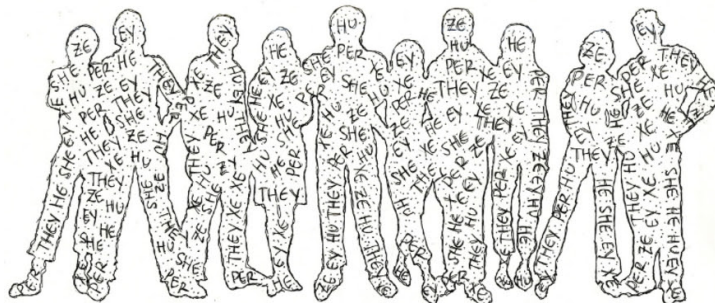


Image by the New School Free Press

Using someone's preferred pronouns shows you respect who they are and how they identify. Recently, the Intercultural Center and Human Resources have offered voluntary training sessions for faculty and staff on gender identity, expression, and the use of preferred pronouns. These sessions give us the tools to understand gender as a continuum, and outline how the use of preferred pronouns contributes to making Swarthmore inclusive, safe, and welcoming for all. Through presentations, small group activities, and even improvisational theater, faculty and staff practiced using different pronouns in everyday situations and started thoughtful conversations with one another. [Learn more about gender identity and preferred pronouns.](#)

Waste-Sorting Champs in 101

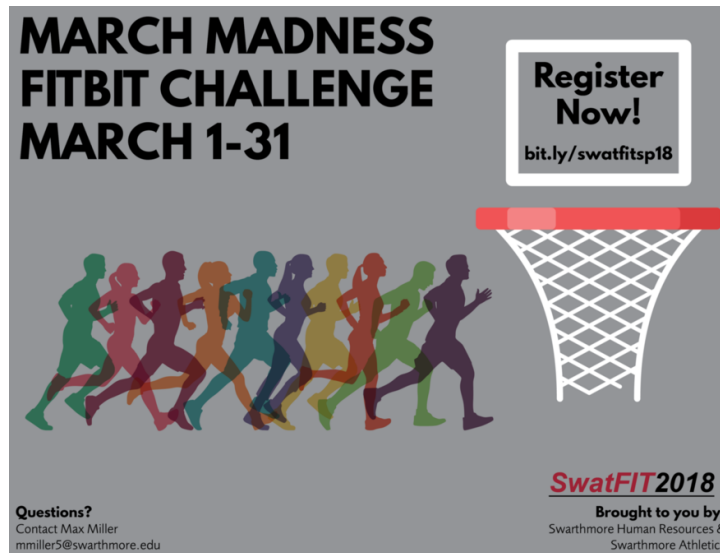


The staff members at 101 South Chester have become pros at sorting waste! The most recent audit at 101 showed that 74 percent of its waste was diverted from the incinerator and correctly sorted into either compost or recycling. This diversion rate is more than 30 percent higher than the overall rate on campus and comes very close to the College's goal of 80 percent diversion by 2022. This photo, taken after the building's open house, shows how little incinerator trash that event generated. Thanks to the hard work of the sustainability team, the EVS team, and the staff at 101, [we are well on the way to a sustainable future at Swarthmore.](#)

Weight Watchers at Work

Did you know that as part of [Swafit](#), the College subsidizes fall and spring sessions of [Weight Watchers at Work](#)? Open to faculty and staff, Swarthmore covers 50 percent of the program cost and participants are eligible for additional reimbursement through the [IBX Healthy Lifestyles program](#). The group meets every Thursday in 101 South Chester, sharing stories, recipes, and successes. Through collective support and encouragement, group members lost over 250 pounds this fall and 220 pounds this spring, with an average loss of 10 pounds per participant!

Taking Steps Toward Wellness



The March Madness Fitbit Challenge was a success! Over the month of March, 47 participants walked an incredible 14,277,949 total steps, covering a distance of 5,949 miles. Chemistry Professor Paul Rablen took home the top prize with the most steps walked, an impressive 1,001,696. Congratulations to Paul and to all the participants for taking steps toward wellness!

Human Resources Updates

Payroll Deadline Reminder

Planning to be away from campus? **Payroll can no longer process timesheets without the correct manager approvals**, so be sure to approve timesheets before leaving or assign a proxy to handle the task in your absence. For upcoming payroll deadlines, please see the [Faculty-Staff Payroll Calendars](#) and the [Student Payroll Calendar \[PDF\]](#).

PageUp Now for Summer Hires

PageUp, our electronic employee onboarding system, will now be used for summer and temporary hires. Because of this change, we are discontinuing the use of the Payroll Action Form for Temporary Employees. We encourage you to explore our [instructions for using PageUp \[PDF\]](#) for helpful tips on using this new tool. If your new hire lacks access to a computer or needs help completing the electronic onboarding documents, contact our office at 610-328-8397 for an appointment to use our kiosks. **All temporary summer positions must be submitted through PageUp by April 15.**

Events Calendar

2017–2018 Holiday Schedule



Welcome Reception

for New Staff

April 5, 2018

3:30–5 p.m.

Bond Hall

Spring Into Wellness

Week

April 23–27, 2018

Spring Gathering

May 31, 2018

2:30–4:30 p.m.

Sharples Lawn

Awards and Achievements

Professor Sarah Willie-LeBreton Named Provost



Professor of Sociology Sarah Willie-LeBreton has been named provost of Swarthmore College. Sarah will begin her role on July 1, 2018. She has been a member of our community since 1997, during which time she has taken on many leadership roles on campus, including coordinator of the Black Studies program from 1998–2005, 2010–11, and 2013–14; associate provost from 2005–2008; and most recently chair of the Sociology and Anthropology Department. In her two decades at the College, she has developed meaningful relationships with students, staff, and faculty, enacting the very values that define our community. Congratulations on your new position, Sarah!

Andrew Feick Named Associate VP for Sustainable Facilities Operations and Capital Planning



Following a national search, Andrew Feick has joined Swarthmore as the associate vice president for Sustainable Facilities Operations and Capital Planning. Andrew will oversee the divisions of Capital Planning & Project Management, Environmental Services, Facilities Maintenance, and Utilities as well as Grounds & Horticultural Services and the Scott Arboretum. Andrew joins us from Temple University, where he served as the director of Administration and Facilities Management. He has over two decades of experience in higher education facilities management and a deep commitment to sustainability. Welcome to Swarthmore, Andrew!

Nine Faculty Approved for Tenure and Promotion

This spring, nine faculty members were approved for promotion by the Board of Managers. Stella Christie, Psychology; Brad Davidson '90 and Vince Formica, Biology; Nsoki Mavinga, Math; and Ameet Soni, Computer Science; received tenure and promotion to associate professor. William Gardner, Modern Languages and Literatures; Grace Ledbetter, Classics and Philosophy; Stephen Miller, Chemistry and Biochemistry; and Keith Reeves '88, Political Science; were promoted from associate to full professorship. [Learn more about the work of each of these scholars.](#)

Don Thomas Wins 2018 Suzanne P. Welsh Award

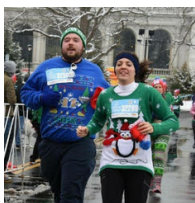


Sharples cook Don "Donny" Thomas is a beloved figure on campus. Always quick with a smile and a kind word, he has made countless friends and left a lasting impression over his two decades at Swarthmore. At the spring 2018 all-staff meeting, Donny was honored with the prestigious Suzanne P. Welsh award, given to those whose service, hard work, integrity, and commitment to Swarthmore's mission echo those same qualities the award's namesake was known for. Congratulations, Donny!

Milestones



Sandra Lopez Cortez, a gardener with the Scott Arboretum, welcomed a new little princess, daughter Lily Esmeralda Nunez Lopez, on Feb. 1, 2018 at 8:24 p.m. at Christiana Hospital.



Dan Darkow, assistant director at the Swarthmore Campus & Community Store, will participate in the Broad Street Run, a 10-mile race down Broad Street in downtown Philadelphia. It's easily the longest run Dan has ever attempted, but he's excited for the challenge!

New Community Members

Get to know those who have joined us at Swarthmore since the last issue.

Resources

Employee Handbook

We encourage staff members to look over the employee handbook and familiarize themselves with Swarthmore's policies, procedures, and benefits.

Magellan Mental Health

All College health insurance plans include benefits through Magellan, providing confidential support and resources to help you manage your mental health.

Carebridge Employee Assistance Program


Carebridge provides guidance and confidential referral services in areas as wide-ranging as financial management, continuing education, elder care, and mental health resources.

Health Advocate



Health Advocate offers experienced support with finding doctors, navigating your treatment options, and managing your healthcare costs.

Lynda Learning Library


Did you know Swarthmore offers free access to Lynda, an online learning platform with thousands of video-based courses on everything from photography to finance? Find [Lynda](#) on the ITS section of The Dash.



SWARTHMORE
Campus+Community
STORE



SWARTHMORE



Phineas Phoenix
Class of 1882

SWARTHMORE

Faculty/staff enjoy 10 percent off every day!

Faculty/staff meal plans start at \$60!

610-328-8397 | HUMANRESOURCES@SWARTHMORE.EDU

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