



*Fifth
Biennial
Scholars'
Dinner*

Thursday, May 2, 2019







Program

Reception

Opening Remarks

Dr. William Mullaney, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Welcome

Dr. Michael Redmond, President

Buffet Dinner

Keynote Speaker Introduction

Dr. Andrew Krikun

Keynote Speaker

Dr. Meryl Sole

Closing Remarks

Faculty Development Committee Co-Chair

Professor Lisa Mayer, Esq.

Dessert





Message from the President

Colleagues,

When I think of Bergen Community College faculty scholars, I think of professors such as Dr. Richard Lenk, a longtime history professor at the institution who has since passed away. I remember many years ago when we registered all of our students in just a few grueling days in the gym each semester, I took a lunch break and found my way to the cafeteria where Richard was eating. I barely knew him – I had just started at the college – so I felt it was up to me to introduce myself and start the conversation. I made the mistake, though, to ask whether he had taught during the summer. He looked at me with horror in his eyes and told me that he spent the summer reading new books in history that had come out over the past year.

And he didn't stop there.

For the next half-hour or so, he gave me a running account of them, pointing out the ones that were good and the ones that were bad, and why. I thought right then that I wanted to be that kind of professor – one who took delight in his or her discipline and found wonder in its subject matter.

Pedagogical skills are obviously important, but they can be learned, but one has or doesn't have joy in one's discipline. I've always thought that letting students in on this joy and wonder is one of the most important things you can do in the classroom.

The faculty we honor tonight possess that joy. And that's why they excel.

I am proud to recognize tonight's scholars and equally proud to stand beside them as their colleague.

Michael

Michael D. Peduncul





Message from the Vice President of Academic Affairs

As the Vice President of Academic Affairs, I am honored to be here at Bergen Community College for the fifth celebration of the Scholars' Dinner to commend those faculty members who in some significant way have distinguished themselves as academics.

One of the first things I noticed after coming to Bergen Community College was the vibrancy of the intellectual community here. I continue to be impressed not only by the credentials of the faculty but also the quality and volume of scholarly activity that is occurring. Whether it be in articles and publications or through conferences and workshops, scholarship is thriving at BCC. Moreover, as this program indicates, the variety of the scholarship spans a wide spectrum from the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning to research in the individual disciplines. Of special note this past year was the publication of the inaugural edition of The Bergen Community College Journal of Scholarly Teaching. The journal is a vivid testament to the active life of scholarship at the college.

When thinking about scholarship, I am often inspired by the words of the Ralph Waldo Emerson, who wrote, "Scholarship is to be created not by compulsion, but by awakening a pure interest in knowledge. The wise instructor accomplishes this by opening to his pupils precisely the attractions the study has for himself." May you all continue to awaken your students to wonders of the world by the expressing the passion that you yourselves feel as students.

*Sincerely,
Dr. William Mullaney*





Message from the Faculty Senate Chairperson

Scholarship can take a variety of forms. In fact, at community colleges, where scholarship is not emphasized to the same extent as it is at research universities, it is often referred to as professional development. Whatever you call it, scholarship is central to the academic enterprise. Whether it is classroom scholarship, these days labeled as the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, or more traditional academic scholarship, what we do as scholars is inextricably linked to what we do as classroom instructors. It may be an obvious truism to say that scholarship informs one's teaching, but it is accurate to say that. After all, the scholarly disposition to do research and to use evidence to support arguments or to draw conclusions from research is what we all try to model in our classrooms. When we transmit a scholarly habit of mind to our students we are functioning most effectively as classroom instructors.

So it pleases me, in my capacity as Chairperson of our Faculty Senate, to be able to offer my support for and my admiration of those colleagues who we are acknowledging for their scholarly activities and accomplishments. You are models for the rest of us.

*Alan Kaufman
Chair
BCC Faculty Senate*





Dr. Meryl Sole Keynote Speaker

*“Sing, sing a song
Make it simple to last your whole life long
Don’t worry that it’s not good enough
For anyone else to hear
Just sing, sing a song”
– Joe Raposo (1971)*

Teacher, researcher, mother, performer, listener; the one thing that unites these different facets of my identity is song. Music is the constant, the theme that runs through all aspects of my life. Tonight, I am honored to share my research journey across these different roles. I hope you will enjoy the songs from my classroom, my family, my passion for popular music and the songs from my French horn. These songs that surround me have become an inspiration for research and scholarship.

About Meryl Sole, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Music:

Dr. Meryl Sole is completing her second year as Assistant Professor of Music at Bergen Community College. She teaches classes in music theory, musicianship and music education. She holds a doctorate and masters in Music and Music Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. Meryl’s research interests include creativity in the college music theory classroom and innovative music theory/musicianship pedagogy. She has also published works on early childhood music, musical parenting and toddlers’ private spontaneous crib songs.





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