9:30–10 AM

Good, Better, Best: How ARC, State Farm, and Local Non-Profits Empower Students to “Get Stuff Done” in the Community Partnership Program

The Action Research Center and State Farm have partnered with non-profits for the past 10 years to provide a unique and innovative dual internship experience for Illinois Wesleyan students. The Community Partnership Program (CPP) puts students at the intersection of corporations, non-profits, and the community, leading to innovative community development.

Presenters:
Bevin Cowie ’10, Action Research Center Coordinator
Adam Garcia ’16, CPP 2015 Intern and State Farm Employee

Student Respondents:
Brianna Piro ’17, psychology & sociology double major
Tia Patsavas ’16, English-writing major

10–10:30 AM

Can a Multicellular Bacterium Prepare Students for Multiple Career Paths?

How do I support students pursuing their own unique professional goals using my discipline as a backdrop? This, for me, is the defining question for mentorship at a liberal arts institution. Three students and I will consider how collaboration in one discipline, microbiology, can shape a variety of professional trajectories.

Presenters:
Loralyn Cozy, Assistant Professor of Biology
Rachel Ende ’16, biology major

Student Respondents:
Megan Smeets ’17, biology & psychology double major
Christina Khouri ’16, biology & Hispanic studies double major

10:30–11 AM

At the Crossroads: Anthropology, Interfaith, and Experiential Learning

Chaplain Elyse Nelson Winger and Professor Rebecca Gearhart will offer a shared program on how anthropology intersects with Evelyn Chapel’s commitment to multifaith engagement. They will focus on an Alternative Spring Break to Rosebud Reservation and Sinte Gleska University in March 2014, and the 2015-2016 on-campus series Intersections: A Walking Exploration of Contemporary Religious Practices.

Presenters:
Rebecca Gearhart, Professor of Anthropology & Chair of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Elyse Nelson Winger, University Chaplain

Student Respondents:
Sana Shafiuddin ’17, nursing major
Lisa Mishra ’15, economics & religion double major
Friday, 1 April 2016

2:15–2:45 PM
A Thirty-seven Year Collaboration: Mark Genrich and Kevin Strandberg

These two talks will detail a long-term artistic collaboration between an art professor and an art student, touching base through the years and informing each other’s work. Now things have come full circle as the alumnus begins a teaching career in the University’s new Design, Technology & Entrepreneurship program.

Presenters:
Kevin Strandberg, Director, Ames School of Art
Mark Genrich ’83

Student Respondents:
Michael Kelly ’16, computer science major
Michelle Wong ’16, English–writing major

2:45–3:15 PM
IWU on the Westside: A Partnership with the West Bloomington Revitalization Project

Illinois Wesleyan plays an active role in neighborhood revitalization through a longtime partnership with the West Bloomington Revitalization Project. Successful results of this collaborative effort include the Book Bike, the Veggie Oasis, the Tool Library, the Allin Street mural, and the Porch Project. This partnership puts the IWU mission into action.

Presenters:
Deborah Halperin, Director, Action Research Center
Karen Schmidt, University Librarian

Student Respondents:
Kirsten Slaughter ’16, environmental studies major
Julie Lewis ’16, sociology and Hispanic studies double major

3:15–3:45 PM
High Voltage Poetry: On the Poetic Turn

Like plot twists in novels and movies, the poetic turn—sometimes called the “volta”—contributes significantly to the power of great poetry. Strangely, attention to the turn has been sporadic rather than systematic. In this session, we will attend closely to the turn and its surprises. And, surprise: you’ll never read a poem the same way again.

Presenters:
Michael Theune, Professor of English and Writing Program Director
Dan Smart ’06, author of the blog “Rhythm Is the Instrument”

Student Respondents:
Kristina Dehlin ’16, English-writing and philosophy double major
Jake Morris ’18, environmental studies major

3:45–4:15 PM
LGBTQ+ Identity at IWU: Measuring and Enhancing a Climate of Inclusion

Illinois Wesleyan aspires to be a campus that fully embraces diversity to further its educational mission and purpose. Strides have been made in recent years to more fully embrace lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer (LGBQ+) and others marginalized around sexual orientation, and transgender and gender nonconforming people (TGNC) and those marginalized around gender identity. This process gained traction with a climate survey of LGBT identity and experience that was administered in Spring 2013 and developed through a student–staff collaboration. This session will explore that collaboration and the ways it opened the doors to a period of significant change on campus.

Presenters:
Tim Reardanz ’15, Graduate Hall Director at Bowling Green State University
Matthew Damschroder, Assistant Dean of Students for Campus Life

Student Respondents:
Avery Amerson ’17, psychology major
Paige Buschman ’17, sociology major

Saturday, 2 April 2016

9–9:30 AM
Blending the Liberal Arts and Nursing: Creating a Portrait for the 21st Century

This presentation highlights interdisciplinary collaboration between liberal arts and School of Nursing faculty. An exhibit of William Utermohlen’s paintings, depicting changes as his Alzheimer’s disease progressed, was showcased. Nine discrete on-campus events facilitated exploration of the disease from interdisciplinary perspectives, using the exhibit as a backdrop for rich discussion.

Presenters:
Wendy Kookun, Assistant Professor of Nursing
Noël Kerr, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Student Respondents:
Morgan Hussey ’18, nursing major
Anissa Ortiz ’16, art major