

# Philosophy Department Newsletter

September 6, 2023 (Edited/Published Web Version, October 16, 2023)

## Note for today

It's a new academic year, and there's a lot in the works. This newsletter is about some of those things. The plan is to publish a department newsletter about three times per semester throughout the academic year and at least one in the summer term.

## Important Stuff

- Don't forget to upload your syllabi in Manager!
- Department Meeting agendas and minutes are in Teams.
- Send agenda items for department meetings at least 3 days before the scheduled meeting.
- New newsletters will be in Teams, too.
- Post your office hours and let Maribel know what they are.
- Complete conflict of interest reporting.

## Who's New, What's New



**Jasmine Loriz**, a graduate of Florida State University, will be joining us on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, as Administrative Assistant I. Stop by to say "Hi" to Jasmine. She has many talents and abilities and will be a great asset to our department. Jasmine reports directly to Maribel Herrera, who will show her all sorts of things she needs to know about UCF and our department. We can all help in that regard, too, so please introduce yourself so she will know you and so you will get to know the newest member of our department's staff.



**Dr. Christy Flanagan-Feddon** became Assistant Chair on August 8, 2023. Christy has been a member of the department since 2016 and is Associate Lecturer, Program Director of Religion and Cultural Studies, and co-Director of the Interfaith Dialogue Program. Christy's work as assistant chair includes being DRC for assessment for our two graduate certificate programs; acting chair in the absence of the chair and chair's delegate; sharing mediation and processes for student grade appeals, complaints, and advising; assisting with

course scheduling and non-tenure earning/non-tenured faculty evaluations and observations; engaging in department project collaboration, including program development, enrollment support, department events, and fund-raising; representing the interests of all our programs and the department with or for the chair in public-facing and student matters; assisting the chair in administrative decisions and actions; and engaging in the infamous "other duties as assigned."

## **New Chair**

Dr. Nancy Stanlick, Professor of Philosophy, former associate dean in the College of Arts and Humanities, and member of this department in a variety of academic positions and ranks since 1987, began the position as chair on August 8.

## **AI Undergraduate Certificate:**

### **A Collaboration Between the Department of Writing and Rhetoric and the Department of Philosophy for the College of Arts and Humanities**

At a recent chairs and directors meeting in the College of Arts and Humanities, the dean directed the Chair of DWR, Dr. Sherry Rankins-Robertson and Dr. Nancy Stanlick, Chair of PHI, to oversee the process of creating an interdisciplinary undergraduate certificate in Artificial Intelligence for the College of Arts and Humanities. Dr. Rankins-Robertson presented this idea to the Provost and to the Dean in January, 2023. Drs. Jonathan Beever (PHI) and Laurie Pinkert (DWR) were assigned the task to present information to all CAH departments and schools for development of an AI certificate specific to the disciplines in our college.

## **New Faculty Member Search**

The search for a new faculty member in HUM, PHI, REL or a combination of two areas is underway. The committee has been charged by CAH HRBC (Human Resources Business Center) and the Chair. Their work includes determining department needs from a variety of perspectives, writing the description and ad, and proceeding from there. Committee members represent diversity in several ways, including those of academic rank and discipline. Committee members are Jennifer Mundale (chair), Cyrus Zargar, Stacey DiLiberto, and Louie Favela.

## **Future Department Newsletters**

Thank you for reading this first 2023-2024 published edition of the Department of Philosophy newsletter. I am hopeful that it will be followed by future editions that are designed and produced by - and populated by content of - people who will make the next ones more content-rich. Wishing everyone a good semester and a peaceful and productive year.