



Integrating Liberal Arts,
Professional Studies, and
Civic Responsibility

News and Notes

February 2016

Belmont to Host First NAC&U Science Summit

From February 10 - 12, 2016, 40 faculty and staff in the STEM and related fields will convene at **Belmont University** for NAC&U's first ever Science Summit. The experience will afford participants the opportunity to discuss potential grant collaborations while networking with other science faculty at like-minded institutions.

Science and science-related faculty will discuss their current research and explore multi-disciplinary, multi-campus teams that could potentially apply for NSF or other foundation-supported grants. **Jim Gentile**, past president of the Research Corporation for Science Advancement and former dean for the Natural and Applied Sciences at Hope College, will facilitate the summit.

Participating campuses include **Belmont University, John Carroll University, Manhattan College, Nazareth College, Ohio Northern University, Roger Williams University, Samford University, St. Edward's University, University of Evansville, University of New Haven, Valparaiso University, Wagner College, and Widener University.**

Students Showcase NAC&U's Integrative Education Approach at Capitol Hill, Press Club, and AAC&U Meeting

Twenty-three students and recent graduates representing 12 NAC&U member institutions traveled to Washington, DC from January 19 - 21, 2016 to share how integrative learning has enhanced their undergraduate education while preparing them for careers and lives as contributing, global citizens.

For our story, including videos of two panels and a link to the photo gallery, [click here](#).

For our members' stories:

[Belmont University](#)

[Drury University](#)

[Manhattan College](#)

[Nazareth College](#)

[North Central College](#)

[University of Evansville](#)

[Wagner College](#)

[Widener University](#)



NAC&U panelist and University of Evansville recent graduate Peter May with President Tom Kazee



NAC&U presented the Ernest L. Boyer Award to [Cathy Davidson](#) at the opening night of the AAC&U Annual Meeting. After receiving the award, Davidson delivered the Boyer Lecture.

Pictured left to right are **Valparaiso University President Mark Heckler**, **NAC&U President Nancy Hensel**, **Boyer Award recipient Cathy Davidson**, **University of Evansville President Tom Kazee**, **North Central College President Troy Hammond**, and **Belmont University Provost Thomas Burns**.

Civic Engagement Collaborative Meets at University of La Verne

The NAC&U Civic Engagement Collaborative (CEC) is gathering steam as coordinators from **Belmont University**, **Nazareth College**, **North Central College**, **Pacific Lutheran University**, **University of La Verne** and **Wagner College** met at the University of La Verne - in person and via Skype - to discuss next steps for the group. At the 2015 Summer Institute, the newly created CEC announced that it would focus on preK-12 civic engagement projects at participating campuses in an effort to increase the impact on student learning, strengthen each campuses' local effect in their communities, and provide research-sharing and publication opportunities for NAC&U faculty and staff. To date, 12 NAC&U members are participating in the CEC, including those listed above and **Drury University**, **Hamline University**, **Ohio Northern University**, **Samford University**, **The Sage Colleges**, and **The University of Scranton**. [Read more.](#)

NAC&U Ambassador Spotlight

NAC&U Ambassadors **Patrick Abulencia**, associate professor of chemical engineering at **Manhattan College**, and **Megan Pifer**, assistant professor of higher education at **Widener University**, recently hosted an Early-Career Faculty Institute recently at Manhattan College. [Read more.](#)

Making Connections

Faculty at Widener are interested in connecting with other education faculty members in NAC&U institutions to discuss challenges and strategies related to student recruitment for Pre-K4, middle years, and secondary education majors. If you are interested in this discussion group, please reach out to Dana Olanoff, Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education, at dolanoff@widener.edu.

Student Advising: NAC&U Student Exchange and Study Abroad Programs

As the student advising period progresses, keep in mind that NAC&U offers both international and domestic study opportunities.

Twelve campuses across the country offer domestic student exchange programs, including **four Signature Experiences** -- The Entertainment and Music Business Semester at Belmont University, The Birmingham Civil Rights Semester at Samford University, The Meteorology Semester at Valparaiso University, and The Geography Semester at Valparaiso University. [See our programs here.](#)

Sixteen study abroad programs are available through NAC&U campuses, including Senegal, China and four different locations in Germany. [See our programs here.](#)

NAC&U Member News

Nazareth Earns 2015-16 NASPA Grand Silver Medal Excellence Award

The award recognized the College for program excellence for its Partners for Learning and Partners for Serving programs. Nazareth also earned a Gold Award in the category Civic Learning, Democratic Engagement, Service-Learning and Community Service, that led to the College being voted a Grand Silver Medal winner. Partners for Learning (PFL) and Partners for Serving (PFS) are innovative co-curricular service programs housed within Nazareth's Center for Civic Engagement that focus on poverty reduction, education, and community empowerment by building partnerships with schools, education centers, and human service organizations.

[Read more.](#)

"Higher Education and Presidential Campaigns: Incompatible Bedfellows? (Part 3)":

[Read the blog post](#) from Donald Farish, president, Roger Williams University

Grants

[Hamline Center for Global Environmental Education Awarded Major Grant from MN Department of Education](#)

[Hamline is One of Ten Universities Selected to Participate in Cuba Partnership through Government Grant](#)

[Ohio Northern Pharmacy Professor Receives New Investigator Award](#)

[American Chemical Society Awards Valparaiso University Funding for Chemistry Research in the Petroleum Field](#)

[Widener Receives Barra Foundation Grant to Launch Boundaries and Bridges Initiative](#)

[Grant to Fund Fresh Look at World Religion at U of Redlands](#)

Student News

[University of La Verne Integrated Business Students Donate \\$21,000 in Profits from Their Student-Run Companies](#)

[Six Arcadia Students Awarded Gilman Scholarship to Study Abroad](#)

[Samford Students Help Build House as Part of Business and Poverty Course](#)

Awards and Honors

[Belmont Musical Theatre Wins American Prize for "Oklahoma" Production](#)

[Roger Williams Athletics Honored as a Top D-III School for Community Service](#)

[Wagner Recognized for "Distinguished Service to the Poor"](#)

Campus News

[University of New Haven, China University Establish Forensic Technology Research Center](#)

[Hampton University President Dr. William R. Harvey Tops \\$3 million in Cash Donations to University](#)

Appointments

[U of La Verne Appoints Ian Lising as College of Arts and Sciences Associate Dean](#)

Rankings News

U.S. News & World Report's 2016 Best Online Programs ranked the [University of La Verne](#) as having the 24th best online bachelor's degree programs in the nation and No. 1 in California. [The University of Scranton's](#) MBA program was ranked No. 72 in the nation and its graduate program in education No. 73. California Lutheran University's online MBA program was tied for #141 in the rankings.

[Wagner](#), [Westminster](#) were named among Princeton Review's 200 "Colleges that Pay You Back."

Samford Measures Impact of Flipped Classroom

Last spring, Samford University's Center for Teaching, Learning and Scholarship director Eric Fournier launched a Flipped Classroom Faculty Learning Community to help faculty members incorporate the concept in their teaching. During the summer, four classroom spaces on campus were renovated to accommodate active learning, including flipped classes. Also, a 25-member learning group including faculty members from disciplines across campus met regularly and participated in online seminars to discuss best practices and reading materials as well as consult with CTLS staff. Fournier conducted a survey at the end of the fall semester and found that:

Student and faculty responses to this effort were overwhelmingly positive. Eighty percent of students and all of the faculty members surveyed rated the rooms "better" or "much better" when compared to other classrooms at the university. The movable furniture, interactive technology and overall look of the rooms were cited in many responses. Over 90 percent of student respondents cited a positive impact on their learning (40 percent reported a major impact). Faculty agreed with all seven respondents reporting at least some positive impact on student learning and 54 percent reported a major impact. One faculty respondent summarized the positive impact of this initiative by writing that their class was "completely changed with much more active learning and students engaged with one another. I had them in small groups nearly the whole semester and saw a real difference in the way they engaged in course content."

Congratulations to our colleagues at **The Sage Colleges** as they celebrate the institution's Centennial anniversary. Pictured is **President Susan Scrimshaw** (center) accepting a resolution from the New York State Senate.

California Lutheran University Drury University
Hamline University Hampton University
John Carroll University Manhattan College Nazareth College
North Central College Ohio Northern University
Pacific Lutheran University Roger Williams University
St. Edward's University Samford University The Sage Colleges
The University of Scranton University of Evansville
University of La Verne University of New Haven
University of Redlands Valparaiso University
Wagner College Westminster College Widener University

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