



MORE GOOD NEWS...

Sara Stoudt, '15, Mathematics and Statistics, has been awarded a 2014 Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for Excellence in Education. Congratulations, Sara! The scholarships, honoring Sen. Barry Goldwater, are designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. Only 283 Goldwater Scholars were selected on the basis of academic merit from a nationwide field of 1,166 students who were nominated by their schools. Isabel Lipartito, '15, an Astronomy & Physics double major, received an Honorable Mention.

Sara Stoudt is also one of three Smith mathematics and statistics majors who will be 2014 summer interns in the highly competitive SURF Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), US Department of Commerce, in Gaithersburg, MD. Sara (at NIST for her second summer) and Maja Milosavljevic, '14, will both work on projects in the Information Technology Laboratory. Yadira Flores, '15, has been selected for a project in NIST's Engineering Laboratory.

Congratulations to all!

FROM THE CLARK SCIENCE CENTER DIRECTORS' OFFICE

March/April 2014

HELP SHAPE OUR FUTURE

Outside, the sun is shining and the daffodils are poking through the earth. It feels like we've been waiting for spring for quite some time and it is hard to believe that in a few short weeks, summer will be upon us. How will you spend yours?

On behalf of Science Planning Committee, I'd like to invite you to be a part of the Science Center's strategic planning. Our recent white paper, *The Sciences at Smith: Vision for the Future 2015*, proposed a summer 2014 planning process focused on articulating the sciences' shared curricular vision for the future.

Help launch this effort by participating in a Science Center faculty-staff workshop, *Imagining the future of education in the sciences at Smith*, on May 7th (from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.), facilitated by the members of Science Planning (and generously sponsored by the Provost's Office). Mark your calendar and look for an invitation to the workshop from the Provost's Office in the weeks to come.

One of the central goals of the day is to gather participants' ideas about issues critical to our strategic planning. We will also reflect on best-practices pedagogies in science education and discuss ways in which we can foster a culture of curricular excellence and innovation strongly grounded in Smith's distinctive strengths.

Please attend so that you can share your ideas about teaching, learning, and science education. This input will serve to shape the summer work of the strategic planning committee. Members of Science Planning will be involved in the strategic plan but we are also gathering nominations for the summer committee. If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate your colleagues, just drop me a line (pdibarto@smith.edu).

Let's gather our good thoughts and collective strengths. Come help shape the future of our curriculum and science education at Smith.

Patty DiBartolo
Faculty Director of the Sciences



MEET NEW FACULTY HIRE, ANDREW BERKE

Andrew Berke will join Smith College this summer as Assistant Professor of Chemistry. He completed two undergraduate degrees: a BS in Chemistry from Grand Valley State University and a BA in Studio Art from Calvin College. His PhD in Chemistry was completed at the University of Wisconsin--Madison and explored the dynamics and spectroscopy of gas-phase atom-molecule reactions. He currently is a post-doctoral researcher studying heterogeneous photochemical reactions at Indiana University in the School of Public and

Environmental Affairs. His future research will explore fundamental physical and chemical processes with applications to problems of climate change and air quality. His teaching interests extend from infusing real-world problems and research-based cases into general and physical chemistry courses to more specialized courses in atmospheric chemistry and the chemistry of art objects.

--Margaret Lamb, Administrative Director

Mark your calendar!

Come to the faculty-staff workshop, *Imagining the future of education in sciences at Smith*, on May 7th to help launch our summer 2014 strategic planning process.

SHE IS A SCIENTIST

You might recall that the inaugural Directors' newsletter highlighted the *New York Times Magazine* article, "Why are there so few women in science?" Stacie Hagenbaugh, Director of the Lazarus Center for Career Development, and I are working with a small consulting committee of faculty and staff (including Katie Lipp, Kate Queeney, and Julianna Tymoczko) to imagine a lecture series, *She is a scientist*, for the 2014-2015 academic year that would create further dialogue about the issues raised in the article. We are recruiting a number of prominent women in science to speak and we plan to culminate the year-long series with a faculty development workshop in May 2015 focused on articulating ways we can prepare our students to become the next generation of scientists. Look for more detailed information on the series in the coming months.

--Patty DiBartolo

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS:

May 2nd 2014
May 7th 2014

Science Center faculty-staff end-of-year celebration, 4 pm to 6 pm, TBD
Faculty-staff workshop, *Imagining the future of education in the sciences at Smith*

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