

Antioch University

COMMON THREAD

SEPTEMBER 13, 2016



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Antioch University Santa Barbara Signs Teach-Out Agreement for Former Brooks Institute Students



Antioch University Santa Barbara and Brooks Institute signed a Teach-Out Agreement this week that will enable Brooks students to transfer to Antioch. Brooks Institute announced earlier in August that it would be shutting down in October, and since that time, officials at AUSB, led by Provost and Associate Vice Chancellor Dr. William Flores, have been working to come to an agreement to allow Brooks students to transfer to Antioch to finish their degrees.

[Read more.](#)

AULA Creates Poetry & Story



Antioch University Los Angeles and [inspiration2publication](#) was proud to celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the Leimert Park Village Book Fair.

AULA hosted a “Bookend” event titled Poetry & Story on the Sunday before the Fair, followed by a writing craft workshop with NAACP Image Award Winning Author and Graduate of the AULA MFA program, Toni Ann Johnson.

Ms. Johnson’s reading was preceded by current MFA student: Raquelle Mayoral who shared original poetry as well as current BA student: Linda McShan who read selected works of Lucille Clifton.

Ken Pienkos, MSLS, MFA – AULA Instruction Librarian opened the program with the Spirit and History of Leimert Park. The nearly 50 people in attendance were inspired, awed, and encouraged by Shared-Story.

Elaine Gale Named Interim Chair of Antioch University Santa Barbara’s Bachelor of Arts Program



While Dr. Dawn Murray, Chair of the AUSB Bachelor of Arts program, teaches at the Royal Thimphu College in the Kingdom of Bhutan for a year, Dr. Elaine Gale will step in as Interim Chair.

Elaine is a California-based writer, performer, storyteller, educator, speaker, comic, and journalist who co-founded the nonfiction literary series TrueStory. She loves artists,

writers, community, humor, play, possibility, healing, spirituality, exploring, and learning.

[Read more.](#)

AUSB | Barbara Greenleaf Promoted to Associate Vice Chancellor



Antioch University Santa Barbara has promoted Barbara Greenleaf to the position of Associate Vice Chancellor, Advancement & External Affairs. Though she will be focusing on the Anacapa Street campus, Barbara will also be designing programs, materials, and strategies for use system-wide across all five Antioch locations.

[Read more.](#)

AUNE Welcomes New Academic Technology Team Member, Bram Moreinis



Join Antioch University New England in welcoming our new Instructional Designer, Martin (Bram) Moreinis. Bram comes to the Academic Technology team with more than 20 years of experience integrating technology with curriculum and in collaborative learning environments. He got his start in instructional design as project coordinator at the Institute for Learning Technologies, Columbia Teachers College. As a technology consultant he has developed web-based collaborative resources for public education as well as non-profit organizations and has taught in higher education for Marlboro College, in Vermont, SUNY/New Paltz, New York, and Greenfield Community College in Massachusetts. Bram will be providing instructional design services primarily to the

Antioch University Midwest and New England campuses. When not online, Bram is likely playing piano at home in Greenfield, Massachusetts or trail-running with his malamute, Sylvie.

AWARDS

Antioch University New England Center for Behavioral Health Awarded Funding for Two Projects



The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) recently announced the recipients of four-year grants under its Systems of Care Expansion funding program. Antioch's Center for Behavioral Health Innovation (BHI) was a partner in two of the awarded applications.

The first project will implement a System of Care in New Hampshire's Monadnock Region, with Cheshire County as the grant recipient, and the other will be a statewide effort, in partnership with the NH Board of Education. BHI will provide program evaluation and technical support for both projects.

These two projects represent a substantial scaling up the Systems of Care work in which Antioch has been involved to date. We're very excited to be part of this wave of innovation in our State, for addressing the compelling needs of emotionally distressed youth and families.

Antioch University New England's Center for Behavioral Health Innovation is dedicated to the design and improvement of behavioral health practice, and works with community partners to improve the health and well-being of underserved populations.

Antioch University Midwest Graduate Receives Award for Career-Long Public Advocacy Work



Oleta Garrett Fitzgerald, director of the Children’s Defense Fund’s Southern Regional Office and recent AUM graduate, received the 2016 Winter-Reed Partnership Award during a tribute luncheon Aug. 23, at the Clyde Muse Center in Pearl. Fitzgerald is the second woman to receive the Winter-Reed award. About 200 people attended the luncheon to witness tribute.

Fitzgerald was honored with the award for her career-long public advocacy work emphasizing the role of education in strengthening Mississippi’s communities. She also leads efforts to expand access to early childhood education for the region’s most vulnerable populations.

The Mississippi Association of Partners in Education launched the Winter-Reed Partnership Award in 2007 to honor former Gov. William Winter and late Tupelo businessman Jack Reed Sr. for their lifelong contributions to public education and to provide ongoing recognition for Mississippi’s outstanding education leaders.

“This is truly an honor,” Fitzgerald said upon accepting the award. She thanked her colleagues on the stage as well as those in the audience and reminisced about humorous times and the battles they’ve had in fighting for children in Mississippi and beyond. “We truly are partners in this campaign to educate children,” she said. “The harvest is large but the laborers are few, so we kind of know each other in this room, and we all carry the same commitment and emotion and hope for our state and our children.”

A native of the Farmhaven community in Madison County, Fitzgerald attended Luther Branson Elementary School in Canton and graduated from the Piney Woods Country Life School. She has a bachelor’s degree in sociology from Tougaloo College and a master’s degree in community development from Antioch University Midwest.

She has served as regional administrator for the Southern Rural Black Women’s Initiative for Economic and Social Justice and principal for the Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids initiative, which has operated in more than 12 Mississippi school districts.

In 1993, she became President Bill Clinton’s appointee as White House liaison and executive assistant to Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy. Earlier in her career, she was a project director for the Southern Regional Council, where she worked to increase minority representation on rural electric cooperative boards. She also was employed by the Southeastern Public Education Program and served as southern director for the Children’s Foundation, which educated citizens and members of Congress about the need for expanded access to federal food programs.

Grace, who was the first woman to receive the Winter-Reed Award in 2009, recalled seeing Fitzgerald for the first time about 20 years ago at a rally for children’s health in Tupelo. Sometime later they actually had a discussion at the state Capitol during a time when bills on children’s issues were being debated.

“The conversation went something like this.” Oleta recounted, “‘We need to make sure there won’t be any mess with the people involved in this issue,’ And I gave her my word that I would do anything I could to eliminate any mess if we could just get this measure through.” The measure was passed.

Later Grace worked with Fitzgerald in helping to design the SPARK preschool program in Mississippi. “She would meet a challenge head on ... she did so with composure and grace regardless if it was a hill or mountain she was going to take it on,” Grace said. “For Oleta, the work of affording poor children –whether they are minority children or not – equal opportunity to education, healthcare, a better quality of life, has always been serious.”

During her video tribute to the honoree, Edelman expressed how deserving Fitzgerald was to receive the award. “She works tirelessly to see that children can have an education,” said Edelman, noting she’s known Fitzgerald for almost 50 years. She described the honoree as an aggressive organizer and politician and recalled her work to ensure that the rights of disabled children were protected. “I’m very proud of what she has done and even more proud of the good things to come.”

Williams-Bishop described Fitzgerald as her dear friend, mentor and colleague. Williams-Bishop worked in the CDF Southern Regional Office for 15 years and had several stories to share about working with Fitzgerald. "She's no micromanager, but she's the kind of boss with high expectations," Williams-Bishop said.

After the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, Williams-Bishop explained that Fitzgerald's leadership caused hundreds of families to be reconnected, thousands of displaced children to find solace through schools and multimillion-dollar investments to be made by the Kellogg Foundation.

"Oleta and I have fought a lot of battles together. I have always been reassured because I was on her side every time we fought the battles. I feel a lot safer that way," Winter said. "I appreciate the leadership you have provided this embattled state of Mississippi on behalf of our children. As long as I have been in public life, I have never found anyone more totally and completely dedicated to improve the lives of all of us but particularly our children."

AULA | Anonymous Donation of \$40,000 Funds New Trauma Specialization Scholarship.



Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Antioch University Los Angeles (AULA) has created a new scholarship for the Trauma Specialization in the Master Arts in Clinical Psychology Program. The entire \$40,000 gift will be awarded equally among qualified student applicants for the fall 2016 quarter. The scholarship will provide support to continuing Trauma Specialization students with financial need.

"Many students select this specialization because of a personal passion to relieve the suffering of others," said Erica Holmes, Psy.D, Director of the Trauma Specialization. "This scholarship can help relieve some of the

student's financial stress allowing them space to concentrate on pursuing their degree."

Trauma Specialization students are trained in the latest research and treatment intervention in order to work with diverse populations with the aim of reducing trauma related psychological distress.

"This generous donation will provide many talented, hard-working students assistance to complete their graduate program," said AULA Interim Provost Dale A. Johnston, Ph.D. "It demonstrates how crucial scholarships are to helping our students be successful. And we hope it will inspire others."

[Read more.](#)

AU Chancellor and AUM Provost Present at Springfield, OH Rotary Club

EVENTS



Antioch University Chancellor, Bill Groves, along with Antioch University Midwest's Provost, Marian Glancy, recently had the opportunity to speak to the Springfield Rotary Club. Together, they were able to share an overview of the university system, the programs offered, and several ways in which we fulfill our mission: such as our flexible schedules for working adults, social and community engagement, and increasing access to and affordability of a bachelor's degree through our 3+1 initiatives.

Photo: Chancellor, Bill Groves, and AUM Provost, Marian Glancy, at the Springfield Rotary Club on August 29, 2016.

AULA | Dr. Elliott and Vice Abbot Kawakami Lead Workshop on Rinzai Zen



On August 20th, Grant Elliott, Ph.D. and Takafumi Kawakami, BA, Vice Abbot of Shunkoin Temple, Kyoto, Japan instructed 'Rinzai Zen' – A mindfulness and stress reduction workshop. This workshop explored a new technique that comes from classical Japanese mindfulness. It focused on contemporary applications of classical Zen principles as tools for stress reduction as developed by Takafumi Kawakami. Rinzai mindfulness practice can include reflection upon paradoxical questions or statements, physical work done mindfully, and seated meditation. Mindfulness Based Cognitive Therapy has become the treatment of choice for prevention of recurrent depression in Great Britain. In the United States, universities including UMass and Penn, have created mindfulness-based stress reduction programs.

NEWS

AU | Digital Ecosystem



As anticipated, the new website project is moving swiftly forward. Thanks to everyone who took the time to vote on the website design concepts. The winning design is being used to guide the creation of the new website. Check out a very brief [sneak peek here!](#) The next step of the project is content review. Our creative agency partner has been working on the website content

for the past several weeks. Using the existing website content as a base, they've worked to strip away redundancies, reorganize the information in a student-friendly fashion and craft a tone and voice for our modern users. They have approached the project with the ultimate goal of providing clear information for students while maintaining attractiveness for google. This first draft of content will now be reviewed for accuracy. Program content will be delivered to the program chairpersons, admissions to admissions directors, financial aid to financial aid directors, etc. The content will be distributed this Friday, September 16 and all comments/edits/suggestions are due by the end of the day September 28. Thanks for your ongoing support of this important project. We're looking forward to showcasing AU in this new digital ecosystem.

Thanks for taking the time to check out the sneak peek!

AULA | Caley O'Dwyer Interviewed by Poetry.LA



Creative Writing & Psychology Faculty Caley O'Dwyer was interviewed by Mariano Zaro of Poetry.LA about his multiple talents as a poet and visual artist. Caley is the winner of an Academy of American Poets Prize, the "Images" contest for *The Dallas Morning News* and has also been the recipient of a Helene Wurlitzer grant for poetry. In 2008, his poems about the expressionist paintings of Mark Rothko (1903-1970) were displayed in London at the Tate Modern Museum. His forthcoming second poetry collection - *Light, Earth, and Blue* - will feature work in response to paintings Rothko. In the interview, Caley talks about his history as a painter

and a writer.

[Learn more.](#)

Online Computer Library Center Website Features AU



Online Computer Library Center (OCLC) recently highlighted Antioch University's online library on their website. AU's online library, which supports approximately 5,000 students, faculty, and staff members across all campuses and through online programs, first migrated the five separate campus systems to a cloud-based management system in 2013. The

consolidated library offers more resources and provides students with access to all of the AU library locations, as well as extensive online collections.

[Read more.](#)

Graduate School of Leadership and Change Reunion 2016 Recap



More than 20 alumni joined this year's Graduate School of Leadership and Change (GSLC) celebration in Yellow Springs, Ohio. In addition to the commencement, GSLC offered a special alumni workshop with Dr. Tony Lingham, the program's Professor of Organization Behavior and Leadership.

Attendee feedback was very positive. One said, "I was fascinated with Tony's presentation and I can see why he would be interested in our culture because we're genuinely collaborative."

Another participant noted, "Dr. Lingham's workshop was excellent; informative, engaging, and personally meaningful. It helped me immensely to improve the quality of my own teaching and working with teams. Thank you for organizing the workshop, it was well worth the effort."

Finally yet another participant praised the event saying, "I particularly enjoyed Dr. Lingham's talk. It was very relevant to the work that I do."

Clearly the idea of alumni workshops around topics of professional interest was a great success!

Antioch University Seattle Retweeted Neil deGrasse Tyson This August

The Antioch University Seattle Twitter account recently shared a tweet by famous astrophysicist Dr. Neil deGrasse Tyson, on the subject of Antioch founder Horace Mann. In the original tweet, Tyson shared a 7-minute video excerpt from a Larry King interview, in which King asked Tyson "What do you think happens when we die?"

This question led to a discussion of the things that are known by science about death, such as what happens to a body when it is no longer alive. At 4:15 minutes into the video, Tyson says that he would like to have a Horace Mann quote on his tombstone! The same Horace Mann quote that is currently on display in the front entrance of Antioch University Seattle, "Be ashamed to die until you have won some victory for humanity."

Antioch University Seattle's Twitter shared Tyson's tweet and replied,, showing him a picture of that quote at our front entrance.

The tweets are as follows:



Antioch U Seattle @antiochseattle · Aug 17
Famous quote by Antioch founder Horace Mann to appear on @neiltyson's tombstone! VIDEO: Quote at 4:15 mins.

Neil deGrasse Tyson @neiltyson

If interested, Larry @KingsThings asked me about the afterlife [video; 7m]: [youtube.com/watch?v=Ndj5Kj...](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ndj5Kj...)



Antioch U Seattle @antiochseattle · 3m
@neiltyson That quote is also displayed at the entrance to our campus!



AU Midwest | Correction

A previous edition of *Common Thread* noted the publication of Guy Berneko's new book *Reflections on things at Hand; Contemplating Ecohuman Sustainability*. Unfortunately, the opening words of the notice, "Along with Thomas Berry..." lead readers to believe that Thomas Berry and Berneko worked on this book together. Thomas Berry was indeed an influence, and a former teacher of Berneko at Fordham University. But Thomas Berry, unfortunately, died in 2009 and had no part in the writing/release of the book. The editors of *Common Thread* apologize for this confusion.