



12.5.23

Dear Faculty,

As we approach the end of the fall semester, I want to thank you for your many efforts at MCAD this fall. A testament to your support of our students is visible in the powerful installation of work by our graduating seniors now on view.

As a reminder, a Celebration of Life event for beloved MCAD faculty member, Jody Williams, will be held at the First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis this Saturday, December 9, from 2:00-4:00 p.m.

This will be the last Faculty Focus this fall until we return to campus next January.

Whether you stay near home or travel afar, I wish you a restful and restorative break and a joyous holiday season!

With gratitude,
Robert

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All times listed in Central Time

PRIORITY DEADLINES

Fall 2023 Requests for Incomplete Grades Due Friday, December 8 at 5:00 p.m.

This is a reminder that any Fall Semester 2023 requests for incomplete grades must be submitted to Records no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 8. Requests for incomplete grades are always due on the final day of classes for the semester. Please note that incomplete grades are only possible in certain circumstances. See the [Student Handbook](#) for the full policy. Students who are currently on academic probation may not receive incomplete grades. Students who are planning to request an incomplete but have not yet done so should contact their department chair or program director now to begin the approval process. Department chairs/program directors must approve any requests, and then the section faculty must do the same, before the approval is routed to Records. Request forms are available on the Records [Intranet page](#) under the Forms for Students heading.

Final Fall 2023 Grades Due Tuesday, December 12 at 12:00 p.m.

Fall Semester 2023 grades are due Tuesday, December 12 at 12:00 p.m. This deadline is firm and there are no exceptions. Please plan ahead now so that your grades are submitted on time. Grading on [myMCAD](#) is open for faculty as of December 1. Be sure that in [myMCAD](#), in My Faculty Course Center, under View Details, the Term menu is set to 2023-24 - Fall. Additional instructions for submitting grades on [myMCAD](#) can be found in this [Knowledge Base article](#) (login required). Please contact Records (records@mcad.edu) if you have any questions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REMINDERS

Surveys for Chair of Foundation Studies Candidates

Having completed the on-campus interviews and public presentations portion of the selection process, the search committee welcomes your thoughts on our three finalist candidates for the Chair of Foundation Studies. The surveys are short and simple and can be accessed at the following links:

- [Survey for Candidate Russell Hamilton - 11/29](#)
- [Survey for Candidate Jay Gould - 11/30](#)
- [Survey for Candidate Julie Nagle - 12/1](#)

Links to each candidate's public presentation recording may be provided via email (academic_affairs@mcad.edu) if requested. **Please submit all survey responses by the end of the day on Wednesday, December 6th.** Thank you for participating in this important search.

Faculty Staff Holiday Potluck

Join us for the yearly Faculty Staff Holiday Potluck on Tuesday, December 12, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the College Center. Bring your favorite foods to share! Prizes will be awarded to the top three dishes with the most voting cards. This year's voting cards are themed with cats in costumes!

New this year - Ugly sweater competition! Show off your most eccentric holiday sweater!

Bring food in your slow cookers. The cafeteria is unable to assist with warming up food this year, but hot cider, tea and coffee will be provided.



Update to the Media Center's Week Day Hours for Spring, 2024

The Media Center will be changing their hours of operation after the winter intersession period, and start on the first day of classes; Tuesday, January 16th. They will be closing at 7pm, Monday to Friday in the Spring 2024 semester.

This will be a trial period throughout Spring Semester. At the end of the semester faculty and staff can talk though how it went to see if the change should be made permanent. The Media Center's weekend hours will be unchanged (10:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday).

UPCOMING EVENTS AND KEY DATES

- **Faculty Senate Meeting**
 - Wednesday, December 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Emeritus Conference Room 201
- **Fall 2023 Requests for Incomplete Grades Due**
 - **Friday, December 8, 5:00 p.m.**
- **[MFA Open Studios](#)**
 - Friday, December 8, 6:00-9:00 p.m., MCAD MFA Studio Building
- **[Fall 2023 Commencement Ceremony](#)**
 - Friday, December 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m., Aud 150
- **[Fall 2023 Commencement Exhibition Reception](#)**
 - Friday, December 8, 7:30-8:30 p.m., MCAD Gallery
- **Celebration of Life for Jody Williams**
 - Saturday, December 9, 2:00-4:00 p.m., [First Unitarian Society of Minneapolis](#)
- **Fall Semester 2023 Grades Due**
 - Tuesday, December 12, 12:00 p.m., [myMCAD](#)
- **Faculty Staff Holiday Potluck**
 - Tuesday, December 12, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., College Center
- **Spring 2024 Faculty Prep Week**
 - Monday, January 8-Friday, January 12, 2024
- **First Day of the Spring 2024 Semester**
 - Tuesday, January 16, 2024
- **[Seeing Plants Opening Reception](#)**
 - Friday, January 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m., Concourse Gallery

On view:

- **[Jody Williams - Library Artist's Books Memorial Exhibition](#)**
 - MCAD Library
- **[Fall 2023 Commencement Exhibition](#)**
 - Friday, December 1-Friday, December 8, MCAD Gallery

RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

[Resources for Educators, Families to Discuss the Events in Israel and Gaza with Students](#)

[Artist-in-Residence Program at the CBS Conservatory](#)

The College of Biological Sciences at the University of Minnesota, through the CBS Conservatory & Botanical Collection and Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve, offers a diversity of plant and animal communities and a wealth of long-term ecological and botanical research. In a new partnership, Cedar Creek and the Conservatory are teaming up to provide a unique opportunity for artists to investigate the intersection of science, nature, and humanity. We invite artists working in any genre (including but not limited to photography, painting, music, creative writing...) to bring their unique ideas and perspectives to Cedar Creek and/or the Conservatory to help us build a long-term, diverse body of work exploring these spaces and their science.

Artists in residence are provided with:

- Access to a world-renowned research site and/or botanical collection and the diverse habitats, biomes, and experiments they contains for up to one year
- Opportunities to interact with researchers and students working onsite, including formal meetings, opportunities to observe and/or participate in field work, horticulture, etc
- Space to promote your project on the Cedar Creek and/or CBS Conservatory website and social media platforms as well as in the Cedar Creek main visitors building or the Plant Growth Facilities in St. Paul
- Access to a private one-bedroom house on the property for overnight stays, if desired (for Cedar Creek residencies only)
- A one-time \$1000 honorarium, to be paid in two installments during the residency

Submit your proposal [here](#). Applications will be accepted until January 17, 2024. Applicants will be notified of their status by early February.

Continuing Education Teaching Opportunities

Interested in additional teaching opportunities? MCAD's Continuing Education program welcomes applications and course proposals for teaching youth and adults, both in person and online, on a range of topics throughout the year. Email continuing_education@mcad.edu for more information.

Resources from Student Counseling and Wellness Services

The MCAD Student Counseling and Wellness Service provides assistance with the developmental, situational, and adjustment concerns common to many undergraduate and graduate students, as well as with mental health issues students may struggle with. As faculty, you often come into contact with students on a regular basis and thus are in an excellent position to help point students to resources that MCAD provides. Your attention and support as a faculty member will often be enough, but at other times a student may benefit from more specific professional help that is beyond the scope of your role. In these cases, students should be referred to the services provided by the MCAD Counseling and Wellness Staff.

For more information on the [Counseling and Wellness office](#), [referral process](#), mental health [responses](#), and resources, visit the office's [Intranet](#) page in addition to some useful faculty-specific resources.

FACULTY ACTIVITIES

[MCAD Faculty Featured in Black and White Show Exhibition at Casket Arts Building](#)

MCAD Faculty Erik Brandt, Piotr Szyhalski, Rik Sferra, and George Mahoney are all featured in the ongoing show Black and White Show at the casket arts building.

Black and White Show features works from seven different artists. It includes paintings, furniture, screen prints, sculptures, and wall art all done in a monochromatic color scheme of black and white. The show is currently only available by appointment but will be open to the public on select days.

ACADEMIC CABINET AND CURRICULUM MEETINGS

Curriculum 11-22-23

No meeting due to fall break.

Cabinet 11-29-23

We began with a check-in around the room. There was a brief update on the Papermaking Studio and we then reflected on the community conversation that occurred on November 22. Everyone agreed this was a powerful exchange and that it was enormously helpful to all who were able to attend. Gratitude was expressed for Avigail Manneberg's coordination of the event and we discussed hosting more conversations on challenging topics in the future. We then had an open conversation related to student culture and some recent behavior shown towards faculty that was disrespectful. We then discussed a student who reached out to the VPAA regarding their experience in Foundations this fall and feeling that they were not being challenged enough in their coursework and a sense that some faculty were too flexible with deadlines and work expectations. We discussed how students have changed over the years and things we can do collectively to support faculty. One member of Cabinet shared this article with the group: <https://www.chronicle.com/article/students-crossing-boundaries>

We had a curricular work-in-progress presentation by Lara Roy, Dawn Keene, Olaf Khulke, and Jim Howley on their work to create a 4+1 degree that would enable students to achieve a BS in Creative Entrepreneurship and an MA in Sustainable Design in approximately five years. The last 45 minutes of the meeting was a conversation with one of the finalists for the Chair of Foundation Studies.

For Your Students

[Spring 2024 Call for Art Suitcase Gallery](#)

The exhibition space is located next to Printshop at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. Run by the Printshop staff, the gallery will focus on exhibiting work by current students, alumni and faculty, and reinforcing the mission of the Printshop as a place for creativity and community-building.

Current students, alumni, faculty are eligible to submit an exhibition proposal. Priority will be given to Print Paper Book students, however, all students are strongly encouraged to [apply](#).

[MPCC Announces Phillips Scholars Program](#)

[Phillips Scholars](#) create and test innovative ideas that address community problems by running their own summer projects. Students come together in their cohort to develop their leadership skills and prepare for their projects. Scholars receive more than \$9000 in scholarships and stipends. More information found [here](#). Applications are due February 23, 2024.

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Have something to contribute? [Submit content for Faculty Focus](#)

Refer to the [archive](#) of Faculty Focus

Find more resources on our [Intranet page](#)

Looking to stay up-to-date on all events?

[Subscribe](#) to the "What's Up at MCAD" Calendar
and [customize your notifications](#) to never miss a beat.