November 2015
Union College News
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF STUDENTS

As we head into a season traditionally associated with messages of peace and joy, I take this opportunity to keep you informed about safety at Union, one of our greatest priorities as an institution dedicated to the intellectual, emotional and physical well-being of our young people.

While Campus Safety is our core office for all matters associated with safety, keeping safe is a community responsibility. With this in mind, as part of our emergency response planning, the College will conduct a shelter-in-place exercise on Wednesday, Nov. 18. We are asking all students, faculty and staff to simulate what they would do in the event of an active intruder on campus. While we conduct evacuation drills based on fire or other building interruptions, this drill involves sheltering instead of evacuating.

DATES & DEADLINES
Nov. 17: Fall term classes end
Nov. 19-24: Fall term final exam period
Nov. 25: Residence hall and houses close
Jan. 3: Residence halls and houses reopen
Jan. 4: Winter term classes begin
Feb. 8-26: Academic advising for spring term classes
March 11: Last day of winter term classes
March 14-17: Winter term final exam period
March 18: Residence hall and houses close

Calling all Union families: We invite you to join alumni, parents and friends at regional club holiday parties. Register for upcoming events near you
I hope you will encourage your students to familiarize themselves with our safety programs and services. At Union, we have safety personnel who are prepared to meet all manner of threatening circumstances, and to help inform the rest of us how we should prepare and respond, as well. For general information about safety matters, please visit our website. For specific details about emergency preparedness, click here. You may also want to look at our emergency action guide.

We remain totally committed to crime prevention and to ensuring the safety of our close-knit community. Please read on for a range of news, and on behalf of the College’s senior administration, I wish you a happy, healthy – and safe – holiday season.

Stephen C. Leavitt
Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students

NEWS FROM CAMPUS

Mais, oui!: The Union College motto has been amended to more accurately reflect our inclusive community. It now reads Sous les lois de Minerve nous devenons tous frères et sœurs ("Under the laws of Minerva, we all become brothers and sisters") in recognition of the many contributions of women and the impact they have had on the Union community. President Stephen C. Ainlay commended the Student Forum and Student Trustees Evan Leibovitz ’15 and Peter R. Durkin ’16 for their hard work in bringing the initiative to the attention of the Board of Trustees. “I believe the updated motto is truly reflective of Union College and yet another step in our ongoing efforts to build and support a diverse community of students, faculty, staff and administrators,” Ainlay said.

Grant supports arts and humanities: Faculty will have a broad range of opportunities to integrate the arts and humanities with other disciplines, thanks to a new Mellon Foundation grant. The “Our Shared Humanities” initiative allows the College to build on its traditional strength of crossing disciplinary boundaries. The first campus speaker was Roger Whitson, assistant professor of English at Washington State University. His talk explored the history of maker culture from the 19th century to today.

Sustainable projects greenlighted: Fifteen environmentally sustainable projects, ranging from pollination in Octopus’s Garden to the design of an ice

http://uconnect.union.edu. This is a great way to connect and network with the Union community in your area.

STAY CONNECTED

Visit our Parents & Families website
Become a fan of our Facebook page
Follow President Ainlay on Facebook
Join the conversation on Twitter
Follow Union sports.
Find Union events in your region.
Order Union gear.
See what’s happening on campus.
Visit News & Events.
Check out our YouTube the stay in touch.

SIGN UP FOR THE CHRONICLE
Click here to signup for Union's weekly newsletter.
On their honor: Union’s Honor Council has been active in outreach to first-year students. “Since its reinstatement in 2012, the Honor Code has become more present on campus and has enhanced the Union education,” says Kimberly Bolduc ’16. She noted that through a number of presentations, the council aims to make students aware of its mission “to create a culture of academic integrity, professor-student trust and pride in the Union degree.”

Recognizing creativity: An overflow crowd filled the Nott Memorial last week for the inaugural Feigenbaum Forum on Innovation and Creativity. The featured speaker was MacArthur Fellow Howard Gardner, an internationally renowned psychologist who developed the theory of multiple intelligences that revolutionized how educators teach their students. The forum is made possible through a gift from the Feigenbaum Foundation, created by brothers Armand V. Feigenbaum ’42 and Donald S. Feigenbaum ’46.

ACADEMICS:
The play’s the thing: Student actors took on more than 50 different roles earlier this month when the Department of Theater and Dance presented the fast-paced ensemble piece, “The Dining Room,” at the Yulman Theater. The play, by A.R. Gurney, offers a snapshot of American culture of the last century. The Yulman is home to the recently created No Offense Improv Troupe. Leaders of the group are Brad Leavitt ’16 and Melanie Gragg, Abigail Lehner, Matt Mintz and Cyrus Shahgholi, all from the Class of 2018. Read more in the student newspaper, Concordiensis.

ALUMNI NEWS
Alum in the spotlight: Union graduates are making their mark on the world in diverse fields. Take a look at one alumna who is working hard on a first-of-its kind training initiative in dairy farming.

BECKER CAREER CENTER
The season for networking: The upcoming winter break provides an opportunity for students to focus their efforts on networking during a time when they are not consumed by academics. The goal of networking, from the student perspective, is to acquire knowledge about career fields of interest and build genuine relationships with professionals. This helps
to increase knowledge and the likelihood of securing opportunities (internship, post-grad employment and graduate school) for which a student is well-suited.

UCAN is a searchable database of more than 10,000 Union alumni and friends of the College who share career and education-related advice with students. The database is exclusive to Union. To gain access, all students must attend a **UCAN Orientation**, offered at various times throughout the academic year. The career center is also asking parents with internships or full-time opportunities for undergraduate students or experienced hires to forward the information for posting in the HireU database. Email careercenter@union.edu

**DINING SERVICES**

**Mindful dining and more:** Union’s Dining team is committed to offering students a wide range of options for healthy eating. Students look for the apple icon on our menus to help them make healthy choices. Learn more about the Mindful program [here](#). Is your student low on declining balance? Now’s the time to add on. Click [here](#) to add dining dollars to your son or daughter’s ID card. And if you would like to celebrate the end of the trimester with cookies and cakes, you can order these treats, all baked and prepared with care on campus, [here](#).

**FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE**

**Fundraising and hair-razing:** The brothers of Alpha Delta Phi are holding a November fundraiser that has already met its goal of $2,000 to benefit Nourish International, a student organization that creates projects aimed at helping impoverished communities all over the world. “Our project is titled ‘Shave The Suozz,’ because once we raise the money, one of our brothers, Andrew Suozzi ’16 will shave his enormously thick beard, along with all the other brothers,” says Peter Scatena ’16, ADP’s philanthropy chair. Scatena is also [Volunteer of the Month](#) at the Kenney Community Center.

**INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS**

**Some timely tips:** The winter break is a great time for parents to get or renew a passport. And if your son or daughter is thinking of studying abroad, consider his or her last physical, since one is required within six months of the start date of a program. Help your student get a jump on fall 2016 applications, due Jan. 22. Online applications will be open mid-December, but students can start researching fall programs.
online now. Information sessions for fall programs will
be held the first two weeks of winter term.

MINERVA PROGRAMS
Lunch and learn: Each week, first-year students have
been invited to a Wold House pizza lunch featuring
speakers from various campus departments. Other
recent Minerva House events have included a Pre-
Law Society meeting, a Japanese dinner and study
break, a celebration of the Indian holiday Diwali,
writing night, a meeting of the new Pulp League for
science fiction and fantasy fans, and an Economics
Club dinner and discussion about the new Trans-
Pacific Partnership trade deal.

RELIGIOUS AND SPIRITUAL LIFE
Harvest dinner: The Campus Protestant Ministry
joins with area churches to host a harvest dinner at
Old Chapel on Dec. 7. All students are welcome.
Service of worship in several traditions are available
on campus on a weekly or daily basis. Contact Viki
Brooks (brooksv@union.edu) for more information on
times and locations.

RESIDENTIAL LIFE
Dorm closings: With fall term quickly coming to a
close, here’s what you need to know: Students are
expected to vacate their rooms within 24 hours of their
last final. Residence halls close at noon on
Wednesday, Nov. 25. They reopen Sunday, Jan. 3, at
noon. Students who need to stay on campus over
winter break should fill out the break housing form.
When students return, the 2016-2017 Resident
Advisor (RA) selection process will begin. Encourage
your student to apply for this fun, rewarding position.
The room selection process for next year will be in
April, and your students will start to see information
about it toward the end of the winter term. A quick note
about students interested in living off-campus: Union
is a residential college, and as such, all students are
required to live on campus for their entire time,
provided space is available. Only a limited number of
students are released each year to live off campus.
Therefore, students are discouraged from signing a
lease with a landlord off campus until they are given
explicit permission to live off campus. Read more
information here.