Dear Friends of the Institute,

We are delighted to bring you this, the first issue of our e-newsletter! Our mission is to improve the flourishing of OU students, to advance the science of virtue and flourishing, and to improve the flourishing of all Oklahomans. In service of this three-fold mission, we have already launched some of our student and faculty programs, and have been working very hard behind the scenes to lay a solid ground work for the upcoming years.

In these quarterly publications we want to keep you abreast of our progress by offering a quick overview of what we have accomplished and a look ahead to what we have planned in the upcoming months.

Thank you for your support and your interest in the Institute. If you have any questions or suggests, we hope you reach out. We'd love to hear from you.

Warm regards,

Nancy Snow
Professor and Director
Institute for the Study of Human Flourishing
The University of Oklahoma
ISHF Welcome Lecture
OU Provost Kyle Harper delivered our first Welcome Lecture to a packed room of almost 200 students, faculty and staff. Harper presented his vision of OU as a community that both prepares students for life-long careers and equips them to flourish as citizens and individuals.

Middle Schoolers Visit OU
In November we partnered with others at OU to bring 280 students from the most economically disadvantaged middle school in Norman to the OU campus. We wanted to inspire them about education and show that a college degree is an attainable dream for every student.

Recent News From Our Team

(Oct 1-9) Leadership Team member, Professor Linda Zagzebski, delivered the prestigious Gifford Lectures at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. Watch the lectures.

(Nov 5-7) Institute Advisory Council member, Dr. Darcia Narvaez, gave the Kohlberg Memorial Lecture for the Association for Moral Education in Santos-Brazil.

(Jan 7-9) Dr. Snow presented a paper at the Jubilee Centre for Character and Values conference, "Cultivating Character." Read Dr. Snow's paper online.

A LOOK AHEAD

"Last Lecture" - Feb 10
Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Kelly Damphouse, will deliver our first "Last Lecture." In this lecture series we ask distinguished OU faculty, "If you could give one more lecture before you die, what would you say?"

Learn more and Register >>
Camp IMPACT - March 13-15

We are partnering with OU's University College to offer Camp IMPACT: Spring Break with a Purpose, a free program that offers OU freshmen a service-learning opportunity to explore the role of character in their lives. Applications are due by February 11th.

Apply now >>

See More Events >>

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Faculty Funding for New Course Development & Redesign
$1500 stipends are available for the development of new courses and $1000 stipends are available for the redesign of existing courses. Course proposals are due March 14, 2016. Submit a proposal.

Postdoctoral Fellowships
We are seeking applications for three 1-year postdoctoral fellowships. These fellowships are open to all researchers, nationally and internationally. Applications are due February 12, 2016. Submit an application.

Dissertation Fellowships
We are also seeking applications for two 1-year dissertation fellowships, open to OU graduate students. Research focus must be on issues related to character, virtue, or flourishing broadly construed. Applications are due February 12, 2016. Submit an application.

FROM OUR PARTNERS

We are grateful to have established partnerships with local schools and with academic institutions around the world. Learn more about our partners on our website. Here are a few highlights.

Everything about Odyssey Leadership Academy has been reimagined as a process of working to shape the next generation of leaders, innovators, designers, creatives, and culture-makers to be wise, virtuous, and compassionate architects of repair in the world. At OLA, students learn in context and in community; spend time with real-world experts in
local internships; utilize the entire city as their campus and travel the world as part of the academic curriculum.

In OLA’s Excursion Trips this year, students marched the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama (pictured here); stood on the battlefields of Shiloh, Gettysburg, Antietam, and Vicksburg; toured the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee; and visited the Holocaust Museum, National Air and Space Museum, and the Natural History Museum in Washington, D.C.

Learn more at www.odysseyleadershipacademy.org.

Norman High School just announced the launching of its OU concurrent enrollment beginning in fall 2016. Students can take OU coursework with OU professors without ever leaving NHS! Courses are expected to include philosophy, music theory, and principles of communication.

Norman High's Student / Teacher-driven aquaponics gardening system continues to flourish, providing food for students to take home on the weekend and vegetables for the cafeteria.

Tigerpalooza, an annual fund-raising event, is kicking off a month-long philanthropy project. They aim to raise $80,000 to benefit the volunteer program at OU Children's Hospital.

The Aretai-Center on Virtues (Genoa, Italy) is launching its inaugural conference, "Connecting the Virtues: Theoretical and Educational Insights," to be held on September 28-30, 2016, at the University of Genoa, Italy. One of our Advisory Board Members, Dr. Kristján Kristjánsson, will be a keynote speaker.

Abstracts are due April 1st, 2016. See the conference webpage for more details.