April 2025 Newsletter
Faculty Affairs Department

> "Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.
> ~ Robert Louis Stevenson

Faculty Highlights

The 2025 George Awards Outstanding Faculty

Congratulations to our 2025 George Awards Outstanding Faculty Award recipient, Dr. Darren Good.

Darren received this award because he exemplifies excellence in every aspect of his role. He goes above and beyond for his students, creating truly life-changing experiences that have a lasting impact. This is evident in the heartfelt stories shared by numerous students, including one who was so profoundly influenced by Darren that they invited him to officiate their wedding.

Dr. Darren Good
Professor of Applied Behavioral Science

Beyond the classroom, Darren embodies the heart of his department, constantly checking in on and supporting colleagues with genuine care and dedication. Additionally, he has demonstrated his strong leadership as faculty council co-chair for the past two years. His dedication, compassion, and leadership make him a deserving recipient for this recognition.

Please share your congrats to Darren when you see him virtually or in person.

Committee Structure Task Force Update

The Academic Program Committee (APC) Structure Task Force continues their work to review and evaluate the current committee structure at PGBS. The goal is to ensure equity, fairness, and transparency, identify opportunities for efficiency, and effectiveness in our shared governance

practices, and improve communications and coordination across committees. Importantly, we're also reviewing the sustainability of our current model with 14 program committees and a smaller overall faculty size.

The Task Force will:

- Analyze the current committee composition and processes.
- Identify areas for improvement and streamlining.
- Present findings and proposals to the faculty for review and comment.
- Develop recommendations for a revised committee structure to Dean Crown by May 1.

We encourage all faculty members to stay engaged and provide feedback throughout this process. Updates and opportunities for input will be shared regularly. Your participation is crucial in shaping a more robust and responsive committee system.

Faculty Calendar Highlights

APR 1

President's Briefing- Zoom
8:45 AM-9:45 AM

APR 2

TechLearn LMS Town Hall
10:00 AM-11:00 AM

APR 24

Future of Healthcare Symposium- Malibu
10:30 AM-3:00 PM

APR 26

Commencement- Alumni Park, Malibu
10:30 AM-12:30 PM

CLICK HERE FOR FULL CALENDAR

Reminders

Subscribe to the PGBS Faculty Events, Meetings, & Deadlines calendar to stay up to date.

- Click **HERE**
- Click "Add" when prompted

The new calendar will appear in your list of calendars, making it easy to stay informed and organized.

APR 1	Summer 2025 Session B **Book Orders** Due

APR 7	Summer 2025 Full Term/Session A **Syllabi** Due

InStats

Check out some upcoming live streaming seminars at Instats (**instats.org**) that may be of interest. As Pepperdine University is an institutional partner of Instats, you will automatically receive a 30% discount on any Instats live streaming or **on-demand** seminar registration when using your university email address. We encourage you to explore their offerings!

Student Enrichment Funds

To foster meaningful connections between faculty and students, student enrichment funds support community-building activities outside the classroom (entire class invited, excluding in-class celebrations). Due to a limited budget per term, please confirm fund availability with Kristin Bailey (kristin.bailey@pepperdine.edu) before planning your event. For further details, please visit our **website**.

Preparing for Summer Courses

With the Summer term a month away, here are a few reminders:

- To determine which LMS (Sakai or Canvas) you'll be using for each of your Summer 25 courses, please refer to the flowchart linked here: **LMS Decision Tree**. (If you have received approval to participate in the Canvas early adopters program, you can ignore this decision tree)
- eLearning's **Faculty Support webpage** contains resources to support you.
- If you would like to connect directly with eLearning for support in preparing your course(s) for summer, email eLearning@pepperdine.edu or schedule a 1:1 consultation with an Instructional Designer through **our Booking Page**.

Transitioning to Canvas

eLearning is in close communication with TechLearn as we make the transition to Canvas for Fall 25 classes. Learn about the transition plan, and sign up to attend an upcoming town hall (or find the recording of a previous town hall) on the **Pepperdine Canvas LMS Transition Plan** page.

Questions about the transition? Add them to **TechLearn's LMS Transition Q & A Form** and someone will get back to you with an answer.

Cheers for Peers

We invite you to submit a **"Cheers for Peers"** to acknowledge a colleague that has gone above and beyond the call of duty. In the spirit of "giving each other flowers" continuously, we hope that you consider expressing your gratitude with "cheers!"

We look forward to highlighting these submissions!