Spring has finally made an appearance in Williamstown. As you can tell from this issue of the Udder News there is a lot going on in HR and on campus right now. HR has redesigned and launched its new website which we hope you find to be informative and user-friendly. Important additions include links to retirement planning resources and organizational and employee development resources. Here you’ll find a substantial listing of services and programs for faculty, staff, and supervisors to assist in planning for retirement, identifying tools for managing workplace relationships, engaging in strategic planning, or maximizing resources.

An ongoing feature of the newsletter highlights the work of the Staff Advisory Council. Agendas and minutes of Council meetings can be found at

http://hr.williams.edu/?page_id=302. Another regular section introduces members of the Williams community you may not have had the pleasure to meet. See the interview with Bob Blay from Special Academic Programs on page 2. If you have suggestions for other newsletter features you’d like to see, please let us know.

Wishing you a successful finish to the academic year!

-Martha Tetrault

March 2010

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Help Yourself to PeopleSoft Self Service Options

I’m sure by now you have heard that you can view your payroll advice by logging into PeopleSoft Self Service. Did you try it and think to yourself, “this doesn’t look like my payroll advice I get in the mail?” Well now it does!

You can view step by step directions on the Human Resources Website or log directly to the PeopleSoft Login page.

* View Your Paycheck Online in a new PDF format
* Elect to No Longer Have Your Direct Deposit Advice Mailed
* View and Print Your W-2 Online

W-2’s for 2009 were mailed to all employees in January. Can’t find yours? Now you can print a copy by signing into the Peoplesoft Student/HR System and clicking on Self Service>Payroll and Compensation>View W-2 Forms. The design of the online W-2 is different than the W-2 mailed in January, however, both are IRS approved forms and show the same information.

Never signed in the PeopleSoft Student/HR system before? From the Williams home page, under the “Especially for” menu, click the Faculty & Staff link. Under Resources, click the link for Faculty & Staff Self Service. Click on Forgot My Password and follow the instructions for Getting Started. If you have any problems/questions, faculty can contact Barb Pietras in the Dean of Faculty office at x4138 and staff can contact Deb Stawarz in the HR office at x2682.
Interview with Bob Blay

What city/town are you from? I am originally from North Adams; I moved away to Pennsylvania for 3 years and then came back to the Berkshires.

So what are Special Academic Programs? Two of the main fellowships our office administers are the Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship and Williams College Undergraduate Research Fellowship; these programs have similar objectives, which aim to increase diversity in graduate and PhD programs in designated fields. Ultimately our programs provide opportunities for students from underrepresented groups to become distinguished scholars. You can learn more on our website at http://www.williams.edu/resources/osap/

What do you enjoy most about your job? Working with the Fellows each semester, being exposed to so many cultures and backgrounds has been very rewarding. I also get to take part in the “fun activities” that the Fellows participate in the summer such as the Williamstown Theatre Festival, Jacob’s Pillow, Tanglewood, and a field trip to New York City. Every summer colloquium is different and exciting!

If you could be on a TV show what show would you be on? I would be on the amazing race with my brother, Michael. The show is tough mentally and physically. Maybe I would even consider Survivor.

Speaking of being tough physically, I hear you have had quite a transformative year... In the past 11 months I have lost 51.8 lbs and I am now a Weight Watchers Lifetime Member. I was the biggest skeptic before I started in January last year, but a friend dared me to try it and here I am.

Your office has quite a unique décor; can you tell me about the wolves? I have always been fascinated by wolves, from being independent to their ability to survive in packs. There is often an assumption of fear or danger whenever the subject of wolves is mentioned. Until recently gray wolves have been on the endangered species list because of hideous hunting laws that are on the books in many western states. My interests turned into activism when I become a member of Defenders of Wildlife and Sierra Club. I have since adopted two pups, Lucas and Malik, who are in a rehabilitation/release program in Minnesota.

What profession other than yours would you like to attempt? An archaeologist, so that I could travel the world to find and preserve history.

Who are your mentors? My father and motivational speaker, Zig Ziglar.

What was your first job? I actually made stained-glass Tiffany lamps at Warner-Crivellaro; but my first real job, where I had to wear a suit, was at Dun & Bradstreet, in the International Securities Department.

Would you like to share any other interesting tidbits about yourself? I used to play guitar in country bluegrass band.

What do you wish you had invented? A cure for Arthritis; I have seen too many people suffer in my lifetime.

Staff Advisory Council Column

Don’t forget the Staff Advisory Council publishes monthly meeting minutes on their web page.

The Council functions as a representative voice of the staff, so be sure to check out what they are discussing at http://hr.williams.edu/?page_id=302.

Staff Advisory Council Members
Erwin Bernhart
Dave Boyer
Lisa Briggs
Dawn Dellea
Gisela Demant
Madeleine DeMarsico
Jenny Dewar
Maggie Driscoll
Danielle Gonzalez, ex officio
Mark Kimball
Sheila Mason
Kristan Renish
Derrick Robertson
Roberta Sweet
Lynn Taft
Martha Tetrault, ex officio
Kim Tremblay
Terry Waryjasz
We are pleased to announce our newly redesigned website. The new design features more resources, intuitive navigation, easily accessible forms, and easier access to important information and announcements. Another addition to our website is a Frequently Asked Questions page, which we hope will continue to evolve and grow with your feedback. Take a look around and let us know what you think. If you run into any problems, please notify us by emailing Danielle.Gonzalez@williams.edu.

We hope you enjoy!
# Retirement Planning Workshops

## April 2010

Visit the [Retirement Planning Resources](#) page on the HR website to register for workshops and individual counseling sessions.

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**Saving “Mooolah” For Your Future**

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The Lighten Up & Get Fit Challenge Is On!

Remember to log your points weekly

Lighthen Up & Get Fit Login

How to calculate your points
• one point per minute of exercise (minimum of 30 and a maximum of 60)
• one point for each serving of fruits and vegetables you have eaten today (maximum of 9 points)

Wanna Dance? Held on Tuesday & Thursday afternoons.
Learn more about Wellness Programs and Classes online.

Have you “herd”...
the Flexible Spending Claims Deadline for 2009 is March 31, 2010?

The deadline for submitting claims for the Plan Year 2009 is March 31, 2010.

If you have claims to be submitted, go to the EBS-RMSCO, Inc. website at www.myebassocaccount.com for instructions on how to submit a reimbursement request online, by fax or via USPS. Funds remaining after March 31, 2010 will be forfeited in accordance with IRS regulations.

If you have any questions, please contact Janet Bartlett at extension 4355 or Kris Maloney at extension 4478.