

Society for Values in Higher Education

Views and Values

Executive Director's Corner



Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, there were calls for radical transformation in higher education suggesting a diversity of futures available to higher education, wherein both the structure and purpose of the university education are reimagined. These radical re-imaginings have increased in frequency and intensity because of COVID-19.

The Society for Values in Higher Education is planning a week of virtual events from July 20-24, 2020 to consider and critique the many futures available to post-secondary education after the pandemic.

In addition to online versions of some of the regular features of our annual meeting, this year we are excited to include these innovative virtual sessions:

Chats with change agents: These 90 minute conversations will allow an opportunity for a moderated conversation with innovators and thinkers about higher education.

Wicked Provocations Teams: These groups will tackle varied, wicked problems facing higher education, and will present their work at the Gallery of Wicked Provocations virtual event on July 23, 2020.

The TPHE Collective: A group of scholars, sponsored by SVHE and Indiana University, has been working to develop a new theory of public higher education. The group will share the results of their work and engage participants in conversation.

*Higher education faces an uncertain future,
students and their learning matter more now than ever.*

*Come join us from July 20-24 as we explore how to maximize
the impact of post-secondary learning.*



96th Annual Meeting
of the
Society for Values
in Higher Education
July 20-24, 2020
Online!
Registration at our website
now!

FM 2020

[Board
News](#)

Chats with Change Agents

On Monday and Wednesday we will host 90 minute moderated conversation, each featuring two innovators in Higher Education.

On Monday, join us for an engaging conversation with two quickly rising change agents—both sociologists—whose work speaks to key issues of diversity, inclusion, access, and justice in higher education. Both Dr. Tressie McMillan Cottom and Dr. Anthony Jack will briefly describe their research about higher education, answer some initial questions from the hosts (Dr. Eric Bain-Selbo and Dr. Fiona Tolhurst) and then field questions from attendees. If you are interested in their work, click below to purchase their book and support an independent bookstore in Kokomo Indiana.

Tressie McMillan Cottom, [Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy](#)

Anthony Jack, [The Privileged Poor: How Elite Colleges Are Failing Disadvantaged Students](#)

Wednesday's will feature Vijy Sathy and Kelly Hogan in a conversation moderated by Dr. Ryan Korstange. Sathy and Hogan are both award winning instructors with a combined 25+ years in the classroom at the University of North Carolina. They are passionate about student success, equity, and inclusion in the classroom. On their campus, they lead innovative classroom and diversity administrative initiatives that benefit all students, faculty, and staff. Kelly and Viji have shared their work with faculty through hands-on workshops at numerous institutions.

A Theory of Public Higher Education

Tuesday's special event will feature presentation from our A Theory of Public Higher Education team, led by SVHE Treasurer, Dr. Ryan Korstange. A Theory of Public Higher Education is a collaboration among IU Kokomo's School of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Society for Values in Higher Education, and Soundings: An Interdisciplinary Journal. Generous funding has been provided by the IU Vice President for Research in support of Intercampus and Regional Campus Research and the Society for Values in Higher Education.

The goal of the project has been to imagine the future of public higher education as if we were starting from scratch. This presentation will provide information about the structures and approaches to learning that have emerged as foundational to the future of Public Higher education in America. The project brought together an interdisciplinary team from various institutions across the country, in addition to Dr. Korstange, the group includes, Dr. Susan Blum from Notre Dame, Dr. Oscar Fernandez, of Wellesley, Dr. Mays Imad of Pima Community College, Dr. Thomas Laird of Indiana University and Dr. Kate Pantelides from Middle Tennessee State University.

[Link here for more information.](#)

Gallery of Wicked Provocations

With heightened uncertainties across the world, the Gallery of Wicked Provocations — a new SVHE opportunity — highlights the work of interdisciplinary teams exploring critical issues in higher education today. In a session hosted by Dr. Terry Shoemaker and Dr. Melanie Howard, Teams will briefly describe their projects, review final products displayed in our virtual gallery, and field questions from attendees. Some examples of project presentations include:

What should Higher Ed look like after summer of 2020?

Why do students learn more in online formats compared to in-person classrooms?

Seminars (aka Morning Groups)

Celebrating the Search in the Third Age of Life

Celebrating the Search: Third Age of Life has unanimously voted to meet again and invites anyone who has experienced a major transition and is willing to share how they dealt with it and what they have learned.

When we become adolescents there is so much dis-ease. Our bodies seem alien. We can't quite imagine what's ahead. Yet with all the discomfort there is also a sense of excitement: we know there is a great adventure ahead.

What people have forgotten to tell us is that the third age of life is a second adolescence. Again our bodies are surprising us. Again, we are not sure what is ahead. But with patience and trust we discover that there is, indeed, a great adventure ahead.

We discover that the body's increasing frailty is conjoined with the mind's increasing strength. We have become more thoughtful. The sharp edge of judgment has softened. Our hearts have expanded—it is amazing how much in our world there is to love. In my own experience, this is, in fact, the happiest time in my life.

I invite the Society's elders to share their wisdom, to share how their age has given them a different perspective on the current chaos around us and to help us all to celebrate what the years have brought us.

Contact: cochs@earthlink.net

Historical Fiction

The Historical and Novel Fiction Working Group will meet this summer to discuss four novels. David Dornan will start us off leading a discussion of Eleanor Catton's *The Luminaries*, a Man Booker Prize novel about 1860's New Zealand described by one critic as "at once a fiendishly clever ghost story, a gripping page-turner, and a reinvention of the lore and power of the zodiac." On the second day we will discuss Katherine Anne Porter's novella, *Pale Horse, Pale Rider*. Porter's novella takes place during the 1918 Spanish Flu Epidemic. The discussion will be led by Joel Cunningham and Mary Papke.

The novella can be downloaded here. (the Internet Archive)

Tom Stockdale will introduce our discussion of Jane Smiley's *Some Luck*, the first volume in a trilogy about growing up in Iowa. Finally, Nancy Cunningham will introduce us to another generational novel, Min Jin Lee's *Pachinko*, a National Book award finalist that focuses on Korean immigrants to Japan in the 20th century.

Contact: [Mary Papke](#)

Modes of Teaching

Modes of Teaching will focus on the theme "Blow Up Your Course!" This group will provide a safe, multi-disciplinary environment of fellow instructors who deeply value the art of teaching. Participants will be encouraged to use time throughout the week to work on changes to a course so that during meeting times, participants can ask questions, report on their progress, offer encouragement, or share helpful resources. Primarily, the group seeks to offer a resource to instructors who are making course design and curriculum changes, some of which may be required due to new course modality requirements in the Fall 2020 semester. Each day's brief meeting will include an opportunity to state intentions for the follow day's work and a chance to share questions and ideas with others who are engaged in similar work.

Contact: [Melanie Howard](#) and [Amy Berger](#)

Pop Culture

Tuesday

The Pop Culture morning group will meet to discuss the film *Contagion* (2011). This film is probably the single-closest pop culture reference for the current pandemic, though, thankfully, it represents something far more severe than we've been dealing with globally.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contagion_\(2011_film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Contagion_(2011_film))

Wednesday

The Pop Culture morning group will meet to discuss the novel *World War Z* (2006). While a very different kind of pandemic, Max Brooks' novel, as opposed to the 2013 film adaptation, addresses some themes that have become prevalent in our own current-day experiences with the COVID-19 pandemic. Members may want to watch the film as well, but should be aware that the novel is a very different piece of work.

Thursday

The Pop Culture morning group will meet to discuss other ways in which the COVID-19 pandemic has already appeared in or affected current pop culture. Possible examples extend from SNL at home, the Parks and Rec special, talk shows and news filmed out of the studio, etc. It should be interesting to compare notes, as it were, on where the members have seen the impact of the pandemic in various pop culture sources.

Contact: [Eric Ecklund](#)

Reclaiming your Writing Time and Space

To benefit the most from participation in this group, conveners recommend setting aside time dedicated to your writing.

Join us for four morning sessions dedicated to reclaiming your writing time and space. Each day, we will 1) convene to explore the daily topics, 2) adjourn for individual or interdisciplinary team writing; and 3) reconnect for support, accountability, sharing, and celebration. Participants are encouraged to bring works-in-progress. One-on-one consultations and peer feedback will be available. This year, the primary focus will be creative writing, but participants are welcome to bring other types of writing to the workshop, including scholarly writing and curriculum development.

Discussion topics may include: understanding your own writing process; developing strategies to protect your writing time and space; writing without inhibition; sparking creativity during slow periods; exploring different short writing forms; autoethnography; and personal goal-setting and accountability. Participants will leave with a better sense of what works for them as writers, progress on their own writing projects, and new ideas to strengthen their writing habits.

Contact: [Julie Phillips](#)

Theorizing Culture

This year the group is taking a somewhat tangential approach to the meeting's theme, focusing on the very idea of "the future." In particular, we want to examine two representative texts that are about 100 years apart in order to think through similarities and differences in regard to ways of thinking about the future. We will spend the first session focusing on Ernst Bloch's early 20th-century classic *The Principle of Hope* (Volume 1). The final two sessions we will focus on contemporary philosopher Susan Schneider's *Artificial You: AI and the Future of Your Mind*. Throughout our conversation, we also will consider the role of higher education in thinking about and preparing for whatever future is to come.

Schedule for Readings

Tuesday: Bloch, Introduction and Part One

Wednesday: Schneider, Introduction and Chapters 1-5

Thursday: Schneider, Chapters 6-8 and Conclusion

Conveners: [Allen Dunn](#) and [Eric Bain-Selbo](#)

Special Interest Groups

Poetry Circle -Lynore Banchoff

All are welcome to participate in this group: writers, readers, listeners, singers. Humor and creativity are welcome. Come be with this circle that has been a part of the meeting for twenty years.

Women's Group - self-directed

The Women's group provides all women with a confidential space to share concerns and offer support. Practical advice is a frequent component! Though we are only scheduled for one formal meeting, we hope to find time to meet informally throughout the conference.

Using Whova - our virtual conference app

Whova can be used on a desktop or mobile device. The folks at Whova would very much like you to use their app; you do NOT have to do so. The only benefit of the mobile app currently is that you are able to browse the profiles of attendees. You can still see the list of attendees on the desktop version, view the agenda, join the zoom session, and message other attendees. Click below for (what I hope) are helpful instructions!

[Whova instructions.](#)

Auction!

Subject: SVHE Sneak Peak (and cry for help)

Hello SVHE Peeps!

Were afraid you wouldn't have a chance to spend all your hard earned cash at the auction? Were you finding yourself in a deep depression, knowing that your dream to foster The Rock this year was dashed? Well, fear not, the auction is on (assuming we get some more donations)!!

Please email Laura (lbainselbo@yahoo.com) as soon as possible if you are willing to offer a service, a virtual experience, a vacation home that can be available even if social distancing is still needed, or other item that can be auctioned off on-line. Because of these uncertain times, we can't accept a vacation home in which you would be sharing the space (I know, everyone was really hoping to take a trip to Kokomo, Indiana to spend a weekend with Laura and Eric, but it just can't happen this year) This year, we need to be creative, so put those thinking caps on!

The auction will be silent, and open through the course of the conference. The sooner you can let Laura know what you can offer, the better able she is to put this altogether.

Here are the offerings so far:

Handmade, incredibly delicious, one-of-a-kind, chocolates made with love by Judy Meschel (value: priceless)

The Rock (even more priceless!)

CV review, and consultation with Eric Bain-Selbo on the Dos and Don'ts of interviewing for a tenure track position (he has chaired and served on countless search committees, and knows a thing or two about it!)

What skill or service will you offer in support of the Society? I can't wait to see!!

As you can imagine, due to the pandemic, many who won a vacation stays last year didn't get to take them. If you are one of those people, be sure to get in touch with your donor to make new arrangements, if you haven't already. This will allow them the freedom to offer it again in 2021, if they so choose.

Thank you,

Laura

Town Meeting

Because the Town Meeting will be virtual this year, we will be sending out any documents you may need ahead of time. All Fellows are allowed to comment or ask questions about anything discussed at the Town Meeting. Please keep an eye on your inbox for those documents.

Memorial Service

We will be having a virtual Memorial Service this year on Friday, July 24 at 3:00pm Eastern time. We will be remembering John McDermott, Joan McKee, and Hal and Agnes Jackson. Please let [Sandy](#) know if you know of anyone we have left off the list.



Could it be your dues payment?

Thanks to all who have contributed to our Annual Fund and paid their dues. Our last round of dues and Annual Fund letters has been mailed. We depend on your dues and contributions to keep our programs and operations running smoothly. Don't delay! Return the form you were mailed or go here to:

[Pay Dues](#)

[Contribute](#)

Letter from Interim President, Fiona Tolhurst

Dear Members of SVHE,

On 11 June 2020, Dave Stewart resigned his position as President of the Society effective 12 June. As Vice President and now Interim President, I am writing to you to express my sadness that Dave resigned, and I thank him for his exemplary service to the Society as both Treasurer and President.

At a special meeting of the Board on 23 June, the Board voted to allow me to serve as Interim President until 31 July in order to facilitate a smooth transition between the current leadership team and the one that will take office at the Fellows Meeting.

At the Board meeting that will take place the week before the FM, the Board will elect both a new President (who can be, but does not have to be, a member of the Board) and a new Vice President who must be a member of the Board.

I invite you to participate in the building of our new leadership team by submitting nominations for officer positions, especially for the office of President.

Should you wish to nominate yourself for either Vice President or President, please email Dorothy Hurlburt, Chair of the Nominating Committee at dhurlburt1@gmail.com by 10 July.

Should you wish to nominate an SVHE member other than yourself for either Vice President or President, please ask that individual's permission to be nominated and then email that nomination to Dorothy Hurlburt by 13 July.

If you have any questions or concerns about the process I have outlined here, feel free to email me at ftolhurst@gmail.com.

Yours in fellowship,
Fiona Tolhurst
Interim President of SVHE

Board of Directors

We'd like to congratulate new Board members, Amy Berger, Reade Dornan, and Greg Robbins and returning member Melanie Howard. They will begin their terms in July 2020. A huge thanks to outgoing Board member, Andy Sfekas, and Vice President, Fiona Tolhurst, for their service to the Board and the Society. If you are interested in running for the Board or would like to nominate someone for next year's election, contact [Dorothy Hurlburt](#), SVHE Nominating Committee Chair.