Stein, Scribner, and Brown Publish Article

September 30, 2013 Volume 7, Issue 4







Stein

Scribner

Brown

Michael Stein, Professor of Sociology, Chris Scribner, Professor of Psychology, and David Brown, Professor and Chair of the Philosophy Department, have co-authored an article, "Market Forces and the College Classroom: Losing Sovereignty." The piece has been published in the current edition (Volume 4) of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) online *Journal of Academic Freedom*.



Did you know that during the Vietnam era, Lee Weiner (from the Chicago Seven) spoke at Lindenwood? While Lindenwood was relatively peaceful compared to other campuses around the country, in May 1970, Weiner stated, "If I were given the choice, I would burn this country down." There is no record of what the student reaction was to his address.

According to Stein, the article examines how external forces, driven by market demands for accountability and measurable outcomes, have altered the college classroom and eroded the sovereignty professors once enjoyed within it. The piece discusses the impact of technology use in the educational setting and how syllabi, once left to professors, are now dictated templates containing a bewildering array of acronyms and abbreviations.

"Technology responds to classroom issues, real or imagined, with a bandolier of "magic bullets," while at the same time, creating an atmosphere of instant and continual feedback," Stein said. "Although conceding some points and the inevitability of these forces in higher education, we hold the university to be in some ways set apart, and question both the efficiency and efficacy of assessment demands.

"Through all of this we believe something of real value—perhaps not measurable—is being lost."

Stein also delivered a presentation relative to the topic in June at the AAUP Annual Conference on the State of Higher Education, in Washington, D.C. His

presentation was titled, "From Syllabus to Evaluation: Electronica, Assessment, and the Merchandising of Knowledge."

Bobo to Serve as Conference Workshop Facilitator

Luke Bobo, PhD, Department Chair and Associate Professor of Christian Ministry Studies, will serve as a workshop facilitator during the L'Abri Fellowship conference on Saturday, Oct.19, at Westminster Christian Academy in St. Louis. The theme of the conference will be, "Every Tribe and Nation: Crossing Divides with the Gospel of Reconciliation."



The event is a shorter version of the L'Abri conference that has been held in Rochester, Minn., for the past 20 years. Founded by Francis and Edith Schaeffer in 1955 in Switzerland, the purpose of the event is to "provide an environment where Christians and non-Christians can seek answers to questions about God and truth."

During the conference, Bobo, along with other speakers, will cover a variety of ethical and cultural issues through lectures, discussions, and personal interaction. Bobo's workshop is titled, "Developing a Cross-Cultural Mindset: A Journey Towards Eradicating the Fear of the 'Other."

"This is the second annual St. Louis conference and it will allow St. Louisans who cannot attend the Rochester event to attend one in their own 'backyard' for a very affordable fee," Bobo said. "The intent is not to proselytize, but to show others - Christian and non-Christian alike - how Christian thinkers explore issues associated with our contemporary society."

The conference will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The cost to attend is \$40 for adults, \$30 for students, \$80 for couples, and \$25 for children. To purchase tickets or for more information, visit http://www.labri.org/conferences.html.

Mangels Selected for St. Louis Forum

Susan Mangels, PhD, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, has been selected as a member of St. Louis Forum. The organization brings together female executives and professionals in the St. Louis area who have distinguished themselves through significant achievements in their chosen fields.

Membership in St. Louis Forum represents a wide array of business backgrounds and professions and is by invitation only. The group provides its members with information on a range of issues and topics, networking events, and opportunities for professional and community advancement and recognition.

"It's pretty humbling being asked to join this group of esteemed professional women in St. Louis," Mangels said. "I look forward to sharing many of Lindenwood's wonderful highlights with them."

Mangels' research interests include leadership, female executives, and career theory, and she frequently delivers addresses on the topic of work-life balance. She has served on the American Council on Education's Commission on Women in Higher Education and the Board of Directors of the Women's Foodservice Forum. She now serves on the board of the St. Louis Planned Giving Council and as a Trustee of Lexington College. Mangels is a member of the 2013-2014 Class of Leadership St. Louis.