

**From:** Karen Soul <ksoul@centenary.edu>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 26, 2024 3:12 PM  
**To:** Faculty Global; AcademicAffairsStaff  
**Subject:** January 26, 2024 Newsletter

Dear Colleagues,

Good Friday afternoon! It was exciting to attend the first 2024 Centenary in Paris meeting today and I appreciate our amazing faculty and staff who are already gearing up to lead this program.

Today, the newsletter for students focuses on “office hours” – what office hours are, how to find out when they are, what to ask your instructor when you visit, how to be brave in approaching a faculty member, and how attending office hours can make you a more successful student. In this process, I realized that I do not have published “office hours” and perhaps that would be helpful to you. Therefore, next week **my office hours** will be on Thursday, February 1 from 8:30-10:30 a.m. I will keep my door open and the coffee hot. Have a question? Visit me. Heard something you want to know more about? Come on in. Want a free cup of coffee and granola bar? I will provide. If this proves beneficial to you, I will continue publishing times, varying throughout the day and week.

In this newsletter, you will find:

- Kudos
- Outstanding Teacher Nominations
- Opportunities
- Dates, Deadlines, and Events to Note

I hope we all enjoy a dry and fun weekend!

Karen

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**Karen Soul, Ph.D.**

*Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost*

Centenary College of Louisiana

[centenary.edu](http://centenary.edu)

318.869.5104 office

318.828.6681 cell

## **KUDOS**

Congratulations to **Dr. Chris Ciocchetti**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, who was awarded one of the inaugural [Bridge Builder Awards from the North Louisiana Civil Rights Coalition](#). The organization notes that this award recognizes “individuals and organizations who embody the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., making a difference across racial, social, civic, economic, and geographic barriers for the betterment of our community.”

**Call for KUDOS and Save the Date.** Watch your email for a call for Kudos that you wish to be included in the annual Kudos publication. We will share the Kudos publication, recognize accomplishments, and present special awards for faculty and staff at the Academic Affairs Celebration Dinner on Thursday, April 11 at 6:00 p.m. in the Meadows Museum.

## **OUTSTANDING TEACHER NOMINATIONS**

Centenary College is fortunate to have so many talented and devoted faculty members. Each year, we recognize one of these faculty as an “**Outstanding Teacher**” for their teaching ability, excellence in advising, College service, mentoring ability, and campus leadership. Please submit your nomination no later than Friday, February 2 by clicking [HERE](#). Faculty

members who have served at Centenary College full-time for five years or longer are eligible to receive the award (a list of eligible faculty is attached).

In your nomination message, please provide the reasons why your nominee should be considered an outstanding teacher, including teaching ability, excellence in advising, College service, mentoring ability, and campus leadership.

The Outstanding Teacher Award, as well as other College awards, will be announced at the Founders' Day Convocation on Thursday, February 22 in Brown Chapel.

### **Opportunities**

[Poverty Point World Heritage Site](#) in Pioneer, Louisiana offers free field trips to the park. A tour of the museum, atlatl demonstration, and a tram tour of the park are included. Contact Melissa Evans at 318-926-5492 to schedule a visit.

**Associated Colleges of the South Teaching and Learning Workshop.** The 31<sup>st</sup> iteration of this valuable summer workshop will be held at Centre College in Danville, Kentucky from Monday, June 3 to Saturday, June 8. Workshop mission and learning outcomes are published on the [ACS website](#). Centenary is guaranteed two spots with all costs covered by the ACS/Centenary. Please submit interest or nominations to me at [ksoul@centenary.edu](mailto:ksoul@centenary.edu) no later than Friday, March 8.

**ACS Department Chairs Virtual Seminars:** Please see the attached calendar of virtual seminars for department chairs. While designed for new and upcoming department chairs, all interested faculty are invited to attend. The next session will occur on February 5 from 3:00-4:00 p.m. and will be focused on topics related to budget.

Centenary College has been invited to collaborate with Richmond University and other ACS institutions to apply for a **National Endowment for the Humanities grant for AI Research Centers**. You can read about the grant [here](#). The PI is Dr. Lauren Tilton and she has prepared a draft overview that I can share with interested faculty members. If you are interested in participating, please email me at [ksoul@centenary.edu](mailto:ksoul@centenary.edu) by next Friday, January 26.

### **DATES, DEADLINES, and EVENTS TO NOTE**

- February 1: [Faculty and Faculty-Student Research Award](#) applications due
- February 8-9: "[Full Steam Ahead](#)" educator symposium on campus
- February 12-13: Mardi Gras Break
- SAVE the DATE for the **Academic Affairs Faculty & Staff Summer Launch Picnic** on Thursday, May 9 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. to be held outside the Meadows Museum

### **MORE EVENTS AND RESOURCES**

See campus events on [Engage](#)

View the College [Events Calendar](#)

Check out what's happening in [Athletics](#)

Visit the [Associated Colleges of the South \(ACS\)](#)

Visit the [Council of Independent Colleges \(CIC\)](#)