Dear Colleagues:

It is our great pleasure to share with you this inaugural edition of the quarterly University College Newsletter!

Over the past year, the University College team has been hard at work helping our partner schools and the university as a whole reach nearly 5000 students and generate $6M in margin. As we prepare for our fourth Summer Session, we are so grateful to our many partners across Tufts who have contributed toward the vision of Tufts for Life, collaborating with us to bring the university’s distinctive strengths and values to students at every stage of life and career, while also developing new revenue streams.

In these Newsletters we will be sharing updates from our divisions: Tufts Professional and Continuing Education, which currently includes Courses at Tufts, SMFA Continuing Education, and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute; Tufts Pre-College Programs, which this summer will include 15 programs, developed with A&S, SMFA, SOE, TUSM, and Tisch, and involving faculty from every school; and supporting them all, our Marketing Operations. We will look forward to reporting on major school initiatives, such as our DEIJ efforts, which are focused now on expanding pre-college financial aid for these crucial pipeline programs. We also will feature key faculty partnerships, including the members of the University College Faculty, our university-wide faculty governance board, who are helping guide us in all our efforts.

In reporting on our efforts to realize the bright potential of University College, we hope that this Newsletter will encourage new opportunities for collaboration.

- Joseph Auner, Dean, University College, Austin Fletcher Professor of Music

Virtual Reality Certificate

University College and SMFA Continuing Education are pleased to announce the addition
of a new non-credit certificate program in Virtual Reality to our portfolio of offerings. A fully online, condensed 1-year part-time program, this addition aims to diversify the SMFA’s certificate offerings and provide instruction at the high demand intersection of art and technology. From video game creation and movie viewing to more practical applications in education and therapy, the Virtual Reality certificate has a lot to offer future University College students as well as the SMFA community.

Read more about the program ahead of the Summer 2022 launch>>> Learn More About UC Professional & Continuing Education

Tufts Summer Accelerator - NEW Pre-College Program this Summer

Check out the exciting variety of two-week seminars offered in the new Tufts Summer Accelerator program, each taught by Tufts faculty or advanced graduate students!

• Police, Policy, & Punishment: Ethically Evaluating the US Criminal Justice System
• The Bilingual Brain
• Social Psychology of Prejudice, Discrimination, and Racism
• Women in Classical and World Mythology
• Chaos Theory, Chaos Practice
• Dancing Latinidad
• Responsibility in the Law
• Learning How to Learn in STEM
• What is History?
• Child Psychology
• How Vaccines Work
• Culture and Childhood
• Metamorphoses: Identities in Transition in Visual Arts, Music, and Film

Read more about our new Tufts Summer Accelerator Program>>> Learn More about Tufts Pre-College Programs
Merredith Portsmore, Research Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Engineering Education and Outreach, is one of the founding members of the UC Faculty. An expert in how K-12 students can learn creative engineering design skills to tackle ill-defined problems, Merredith has directed the CEEO since 2015, leading a team that includes faculty, staff, post-docs, and many students, supported by a significant number of research grants.

In partnership with UC and SOE, Merredith led a team of CEEO faculty and staff who developed new hands-on experiences in engineering through two popular summer pre-college programs, Engineering Design Lab (which features the Nolop Makerspace), and Engineering Investigations (which introduces students to the various disciplines in the field); this summer they are piloting with UC in Design and Engineering Workshops for elementary and middle school students.

For the last two summers, CEEO leveraged their online learning experiences to pivot to virtual workshops, but for 2022 they are looking forward to having the students back in person, as they continue their efforts to build a committed and creative community of problem solvers.
Merredith is quadruple Jumbo, with degrees in English, Mechanical Engineering, Education, and a PhD in Engineering Education.

For more information on University College's programs, visit us at universitycollege.tufts.edu

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