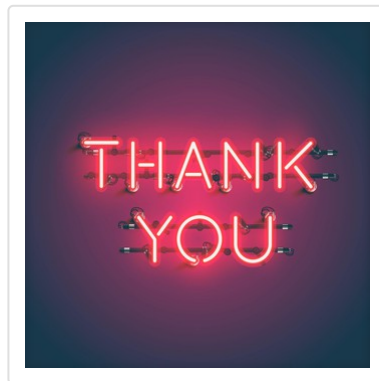


# Lafayette Advising newsletter

July 2020 edition

We hope this outreach finds you well during this challenging time. We invite you to read below some news and announcements from the Office of Advising. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [deanofadvising@lafayette.edu](mailto:deanofadvising@lafayette.edu) or 610-330-5080 if you have any questions or need additional information. You can also find us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [Twitter](#).



**Thank you to all faculty and staff participating in themed discussions and drop-in sessions!**

We want to send a huge **thank you** to all the faculty and staff who have been participating in the new [themed discussions for incoming students](#) and [campus resource drop-in hours](#). These new initiatives are part of [Phase 1](#) of Orientation, which is occurring throughout the summer. Phase 2 of Orientation will occur in the several days leading up to the August 17 first day of classes.

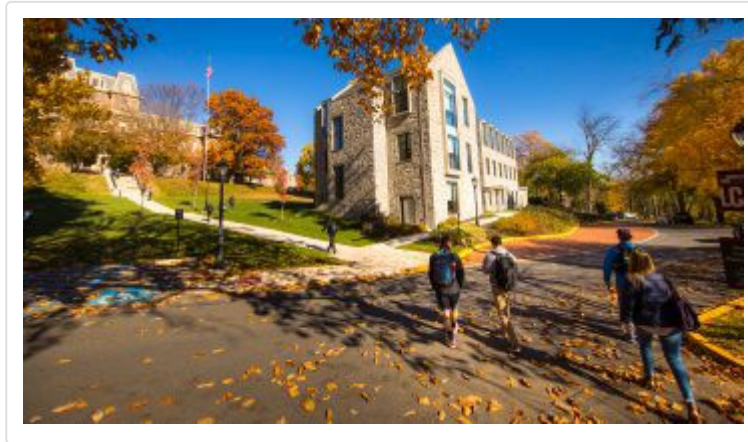
We also want to express our sincere thanks to Abby Schaffer, college transition specialist, and Markus Dubischar, associate dean of the curriculum and associate professor of Classics, for their amazing coordination of these offerings for the Class of 2024.



## Advising staff presentations, and get to know Dr. Tim Cox

Dr. Tim Cox, Associate Dean/Junior & Senior Class Dean, recently participated in a webinar for Virginia Commonwealth University's Advising Board. He joined colleagues from Georgia State University and Howard University to discuss "Supporting Black LGBTQ+ Students Amid Two Pandemics: COVID 19 and Systemic Racism".

Read more about Dr. Cox in this [recent Q & A publicized in Lafayette Today!](#)



## 2nd annual Success@Lafayette summer course underway

[Success@Lafayette](#) is a free online, five-week, non-credit course focusing on academic and non-academic skills and concepts that are key to college success. Summer 2020 marks the second year that this program is being offered to incoming students. 47 students have registered for this summer's program.

A series of eight modules will provide students with a personalized study plan. The modules are focused on areas such as Motivating Success, Study Skills, Learning Styles and Strategies, Goal Setting and Time Management, Thinking and Analysis, Social Interaction and Diversity, Health Management, and Beyond the Classroom. The study plans are designed to engage students with the weekly material, as well as provide an interactive learning environment. In return, students receive individual feedback, perform formative self-checks, and participate in

assignments. Each module contains written text, video clips, and links to related learning materials.

In addition, participants are divided up into small groups that have weekly meetings via Google Meet. These sessions are led by teaching assistants (juniors and seniors) and serve as a way to review the material, provide a forum where questions can be answered, meet other incoming students, and talk about the transition to Lafayette and college in general.



## Inaugural Sophomore Summer Institute in the books

The Office of Advising, working closely with the Gateway Career Center, Office of the Provost, and a number of awesome faculty and staff, has wrapped up the inaugural [Sophomore Summer Institute](#) (SSI). SSI was built as a free 6-week program that blended asynchronous and synchronous elements highlighting the transition from the 1st year to the 2nd year at Lafayette and college in general. Components focused on academic, career, social, and personal topics and milestones for rising sophomores to engage with as they make the most of their Lafayette experience. 89 students registered for this new program.



## Prestigious awards given to Lafayette Forensics students!

The Lafayette Forensics Team has some very special news we would like to share. Graduating senior, Saeed Malami was named by the National Forensics Association as the "Performer of Highest Distinction" within the organization. NFA only gave this title to one student for 2020.

### ***Lafayette Represent!!!***

Typically the National Forensic Association hosts our final capstone competition. Unfortunately due to Covid, the tournament had to shift online. NFA asked seniors and first-year competitors to submit performances for review. Five person committees of coaches and professors reviewed and ranked the submissions. The top performances in each event were given the title of "Performance of Distinction." A singular "Performance of Highest Distinction" was awarded to the highest ranked competitor in each event. Scores were also aggregated to designate the best performer across all of the events. Saeed was ranked as the best overall performer for the organization. Lafayette had several other awards. The students really finished off the year with style. Here are all of the results:

#### Andrea Rivera:

Novice Performance of Distinction in Poetry

Novice Performance of Distinction in Lincoln Douglas Debate

#### Chris Mayer:

Performance of Distinction in Extemporaneous

Performance of Distinction in Impromptu

Performance of Distinction in Lincoln Douglas Debate

Performer of Distinction for NFA

#### Saeed Malami:

Performance of Distinction in After Dinner Speaking

Performance of Distinction in Prose

Poetry Performance of Highest Distinction

Rhetorical Criticism of Highest Distinction

Performer of Highest Distinction for NFA

We are super proud of these incredible students!

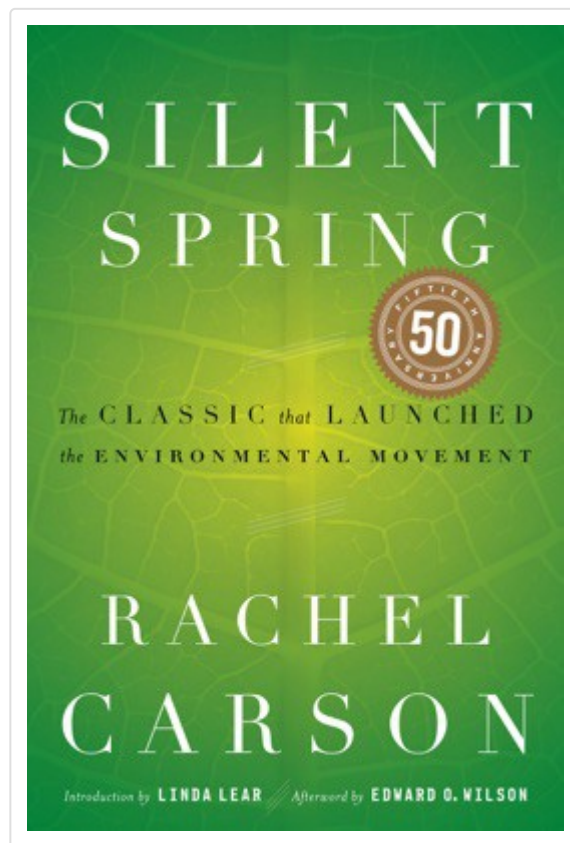
During the 19-20 year, the Lafayette Forensics team was the Pennsylvania Forensics Association State Champions and claimed BOTH of Pennsylvania's spots for the oldest speech competition in North America, the Interstate Oratorical Association's tournament. Only two students per state are admitted and Scott Kamen '21 and Kelly Mwaamba '22 were selected.

We also congratulate assistant director John Boyer, who has been named tournament director of the National Forensics Association's National Championship Tournament.



## Seeking standout students!

The Fellowships and Scholarships Office seeks names of any students who stand out to faculty for their academic potential, intellectual curiosity, drive, and vision, with less emphasis on grades earned and more on the "spark" they conveyed. These would be strong candidates for externally competitive scholarships and fellowships throughout their tenure at Lafayette and beyond. [Submit names using this survey](#) or [email Dean Goldberg](#).



## '20-'21 Community Reading!

The votes for the '20-'21 Community Reading have been tallied, and the winner is *Silent Spring* by Rachel Carson! Throughout the year, the entire community will be invited to an interdisciplinary series of events that will explore the themes of this groundbreaking book

more fully and engage the community in intellectual dialogue with the text. [Read more about the Community Reading.](#)



## First-Generation Faculty & Administrator Directory

To further the visibility of Lafayette College's first-generation population, this directory has been created to highlight faculty and administrator members who have identified as being first-generation students themselves. It is our hope that through this directory, current students can further expand their network of connections on campus.

Lafayette faculty and administrator members, were you a first-generation college student?

[Complete this form to be added to the directory!](#)



## Did you Know? Advising Resources for Faculty

Did you know that the Office of Advising website has [a number of useful resources](#) for academic advisers, including Lafayette-specific advising information, advising resources, and advising-related articles? We also have information on [advising basics](#), [academic coaching](#), [first-generation student support](#), and other topics. More information will be added and updated soon!




## Office of Advising & Co-Curricular Programs

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