

Dear colleagues,

Please find below the invite, and schedule for the “Reflective Spaces, Safe Places: The mission of education in our times” series of events scheduled to take place next Wednesday, March 22.

Faculty members are warmly encouraged to recommend this event to their students and, if teaching at that time, to bring their classes to the events: the Provost has approved the cancelling of classes that day.

The idea of having a special day this semester devoted to open discussion and reflection amongst members of the AUP community emerged as a response to student and faculty desire to pause and reflect on the changing current global and cultural paradigm and our role as citizens within it. We wish to focus on open dialogue and be as inclusive as possible. The idea is to refrain from arguing strong political positions and to focus, rather, on fundamental issues of human rights, education, freedom of speech, social justice, democracy, and civic engagement.

Working with the Teaching and Learning Center, students and professors are currently organizing events. In some cases, students are presenting brief reports of the research they are doing in courses that deal directly with these issues. In other cases, discussions and panels will create spaces to think about and discuss these issues.

If you have any questions, comments, suggestions or would like to be involved, please contact Rebekah Rast or Russell Williams.

All the best,

Rebekah and Russell

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Reflective Spaces, Safe Places: The mission of education in our times

Wednesday, March 22, 12:00 - 19:00, Combes

In the midst of a busy semester, let's take time to pause and think about the changing nature of the world today.

These afternoon events, instigated and curated by both students and faculty, are designed to stimulate reflection and discussion about the changing global political, social and cultural global paradigms. In a series of all-inclusive workshops and panels, we'll be considering fundamental issues related to our place as citizens in the world today: human rights, education, freedom of speech, social justice, democracy, and civic engagement.

All members of the AUP community are welcome and attendees are welcome to come for one, or all, of the events. Food and drink will be provided. All sessions take place in

room C104 unless stated otherwise. The afternoon is organised by the AUP Teaching and Learning Center.

For more information, please contact Rebekah Rast, Michelle Lynch, Henry Goldenberg and Russell Williams (tlc@aup.edu).

Schedule

12:00 – 1:00, Communal lunch. Bring your sandwiches and kick off the afternoon with an informal discussion.

1:00 – 1:30, Pre-event meditation session with Siân Dafydd in The Wellness Room (PL6)

1:45, Opening remarks (C104)

2:00, Siân Dafydd and student group – “A Writer's Place in times like these”

2:45, Elizabeth Kinne and Michelle Lynch – “Reading ourselves, reading others”

3:20, Peter Hägel, Stephen Sawyer and student group – “Global Citizenship”

4:30, Geoff Gilbert and student group – “A manifesto for a democratic classroom in a real world”

5:15, Waddick Doyle and student group – “Taking agency with civic media”

6:00, Anne-Marie Picard, Raphaël Bloche-Laine and students, French presidential elections round table (in French and English), including representatives for the main candidates: France Insoumise, Jeunes avec Marine, Jeunes avec Fillon, Jeunes avec Macron, and Jeunes avec Hamon).