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## Briefly Speaking

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# NEWS

*Monday September 12, 2016*

## Briefly Speaking

Mass to honor first responders, 'Exploring Alien Worlds with Robots,' business leadership among upcoming University of Dayton events.

### **UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON BLUE MASS TO HONOR FIRST RESPONDERS SEPT. 16**

The University of Dayton's regularly scheduled daily Mass at 12:30 p.m. in the Immaculate Conception Chapel, on Sept. 16, will be a "Blue Mass" to honor the University's first responders. "We will recognize and bless the public safety officers and emergency medical service members who serve and protect the University of Dayton community, and offer prayers for their continued protection," said Crystal Sullivan, director of campus ministry. There will be blessing of the University's public safety vehicles outside of the chapel after Mass. **For more information or interviews, contact Shawn Robinson, associate director of media relations, at 937-229-3391 or [srobinson1@udayton.edu](mailto:srobinson1@udayton.edu).**

### **NASA ENGINEER'S TALK ON 'EXPLORING ALIEN WORLDS WITH ROBOTS' SEPT. 29**

A NASA engineer famous for his mohawk hairstyle during the Mars Curiosity Rover landing will speak at the University of Dayton on Sept. 29. Bobak Ferdowsi's talk, "Who Knows What Evil Lurks Below the Surface: Exploring Alien Worlds With Robots," at 6:30 p.m. in the Kennedy Union ballroom, is free and open to the public. Ferdowsi became an instant celebrity in 2012 when people saw his hair on NASA's live feed of the Curiosity landing. President Barack Obama called him "Mohawk Guy" in a congratulatory call to NASA afterward. Ferdowsi is currently a systems engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory working as a mission planner for NASA's planned Europa mission. Europa is a moon of Jupiter with a subsurface ocean, and scientists believe it may be home to microbial extraterrestrial life. The Europa Clipper will make multiple close flybys of the moon, sending images back to NASA and selecting a landing site for a future lander. University of Dayton researchers have been involved in testing the system that could power the mission. Before his talk, Ferdowsi will tour the Multi-Mission Radioisotope Thermoelectric Generators (MMRTG) Lifecycle Testing Laboratory at the University of Dayton Research Institute. MMRTG technology powered the Curiosity rover, and will be used on the next rover mission to Mars in 2020. University researchers have been evaluating this technology for the harsh environments the system will encounter on Mars 2020, and on its way through deep space to Europa. Parking is available without a permit in lots B and C

only. **For more information or interviews, contact Meagan Pant, assistant director of media relations, at 937-229-3256 or mpant1@udayton.edu.**

## **UPCOMING UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**

### **Professional Development Programs**

**Sept. 20:** "Time Management & Personal Productivity." As leaders advance in the organization, they will quickly realize time management determines their team's success. This program will give participants time management tactics to improve company performance.

**Sept. 20-21:** "Project Management Essentials I & II." This program focuses on the practical skills, tools and techniques used to effectively manage all phases of a project — initiation, planning, execution and closing. Participants will work on a practical case study project in small groups to clarify the project's goals and objectives, identify deliverables, create a work breakdown structure and build a schedule.

**Sept. 21:** "Leading Change at the First Level." Leading major change is not the same as leading day-to-day operations. In this program, participants will explore the patterns that differentiate great change leaders, focusing on the complicated role of the front-line leader who must follow and lead simultaneously.

**Sept. 22:** "Leadership is Everyone's Business." Participants will discover how they have shown leadership to meet business and personal challenges, allowing them to gain the confidence and skill to increase their use of the Five Practices of Exemplary Leaders.

**Sept. 22:** "Strengths-Based Leadership." According to research conducted by Gallup, the most effective leaders invest in their own strengths, as well as those of their team, resulting in a 64 percent increase in employee engagement. In this course, participants will complete the StrengthsFinder 2.0 assessment and begin to explore how they can leverage their personal strengths to become an effective leader.

**Sept. 28:** "IMPROVing Interpersonal Communication." Leaders with a mastery of the various facets of communication are becoming increasingly rare. Acquiring these skills can be overwhelming, and can leave some thinking they may just not have what it takes. This course will use the proven methods of improvisation training to identify weaknesses and create new strengths.

**Sept. 29:** "Navigating Difficult Conversations." This program will help attendees understand the casualties of unresolved conflict — productivity loss and employee turnover, among others. Participants also will identify their preferred conflict resolution style and techniques to increase their personal effectiveness.

The cost for a professional development program is \$395 for the general public, \$345 for University of Dayton alumni, and \$299 for center partners. For a complete schedule, list of speakers and session topics or to register, call 937-229-3115 or visit the related link.

All sessions for every program run all day, unless otherwise noted, and will be on the University of Dayton River Campus at the 1700 South Patterson Building.

### **Executive Development Programs**

**Sept. 14:** "Decision Day: Get Focused, Get Moving, Get Results." The Think Strategically & Act Decisively learning system builds fast-moving, high-performing teams with a new approach to aligning teams with the company's strategic focus and empowering them to confidently make all decisions — from strategic planning and employee management decisions down to daily customer and resource allocation decisions — faster and more strategically.

The cost for executive development programs is \$995 for the general public, \$945 for University of Dayton alumni and \$897 for center partners. For a complete schedule, list of speakers and session topics, or to register, call 937-229-3115 or visit the related link.