

# A&S Newsletter

March 11, 2019



Hopeful!

## Dean's Note

Happy Monday to all of you! As I am sitting here in my office, warmed by the morning sun, I have the feeling that this week is going to be a good one. And that's not just because spring break is around the corner! The last couple of weeks were challenging ones, dominated by concerns over the budget for the remainder of the fiscal year, the need to identify savings and freeze spending. But after crunching the numbers the initial shock has made way to a much more optimistic outlook. We are able to fund all pre-approved new lines (tenure-track, visiting and adjuncts), we can support all already approved conference travel for faculty presenting papers and projects, and all the lights will stay on! We are in a good place at Drake, and we will make sure it stays so by focusing on recruiting our next class of First Year Students. Thank you for your continuing efforts in that regard! Retention is also an important part of the equation, and we want to continue exploring ways to help all of our students succeed and stay until they graduate.

I want to thank you for submitting your PARs, PAEs, and departmental reviews. I have made my way through all pre-tenure evaluations and look forward to reading about the accomplishments of all of the tenured faculty! I am amazed by your commitment to teaching, the quantity and quality of your scholarly accomplishments and creative output, and your service to the community at every level—from the department to Des Moines, if not the world! This is the best part of my job; reading about the highlights of your year. Thank you for all you do! And please don't forget—it's election season for faculty committees. Keep submitting your votes on the ballots as they become available. Elections for council and cabinet are about to start!

Have a great week—and enjoy your spring break. I am going to spend it at the beach!!  
Gesine

## Save the Date:

**A&S Retirement Reception:** Friday, April 12, 12-1:30pm. Please stop by to congratulate your colleagues on a lifetime of service to Drake and wish them a happy transition to the new adventures of life! After that you can stay for the...

**All Faculty Meeting:** Friday, April 12, 2-4pm. Following the lunch reception for those who will retire at the end of the year, we'll have the our all-faculty meeting to talk about the mission of the college, about our strengths and new directions.

**A&S Honors Convocation:** Thursday, April 18 at 6:30pm in Sheslow Auditorium. Have you selected your student awardees yet?

## Great College to Work For Survey

- **Responses are due today: Monday, March 11<sup>th</sup>!** If you haven't already, please take roughly 10 minutes to complete the survey. A strong response rate will help identify opportunities for improvement and reinforces our areas of strength. You should have a link to the survey in an email from Great Colleges <surveys@moderthink.net>.

## Have you completed the Prevent Harassment Blackboard Course?

**All faculty and staff are required to complete the course *Prevent Discrimination and Harassment Together* by **March 31**.**

To access the course, log in to myDrake and click the Blackboard app in the shaded blue area near the top of the screen. The courses are listed in the My Courses area of the page. The *Prevent Sexual Violence Together* and *Prevent Discrimination and Harassment Together* courses are bundled within the link titled *Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Violence Prevention*.

## Spotlights

**Godfried Asante**, assistant professor of Rhetoric, received Best Top Paper in the Intercultural Communication Division of the Western States Communication Association for his essay entitled, "Anti-LGBTI Violence and the Ambivalent Colonial Discourses of Ghanaian Pentecostalist Charismatic Church Leaders."

Drake graduate, **Lauren Dillon**, joins the Klobuchar campaign after spending nearly a decade at the DNC, including five years as Research Director, and most recently served as a Deputy Director of the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee during the 2018 campaign cycle. Dillon worked on two presidential campaigns, including President Barack Obama's re-elect in 2012 and Secretary Clinton's general election campaign in 2016

**Katie Berger**, AS '17, is currently in her second year at Washington University Law School. She has been selected for a year-long paid internship with the federal public defenders for the eastern district of Missouri, and that her student note, "Death-Qualification of Juries in Capital Murder Trials as a Violation of the Social Contract," will be published in the next edition of Washington University's Jurisprudence Review.

## Reading Corner

- Wanting to show your students how much good writing matters: [visit this article from The Chronicle of Higher Education.](#)

## Student and Faculty Awards

Consider nominating your colleagues and your students for the following awards:

### Student Awards:

- April 1: [Departmental Award Forms due to college](#)

### Faculty Awards

- June 1: [Brown University's Lynton Awards](#): For pre-tenure faculty who connect their teaching, research, and service to community engagement.

## Grants

### [Sigma Xi Grants-In-Aid of Research](#)

**Deadline: March 15, 2019**

Encourage your students to check out this grant opportunity! Students may apply for funding from the program twice each year. The grants are made possible by designated funds from the National Academy of Sciences.

### [A&S Faculty Development Grants for Fall 2019](#)

**Deadline: March 29, 2019**

The College of Arts & Sciences offers support for research, scholarly work, and creative endeavors. Specifically, the grants provide for three categories of funding: collaborative grants, development grants, research support grants.

[Submit to Kayla Jenkins.](#)

## Upcoming Events

All of these events are on our new University Calendar at [calendar.drake.edu](#). You can submit an event to this calendar yourself—please do so to spread the news about all the things we do in A&S!

- March 11: Above + Beyond Cancer Presentation: 7pm, Cowles Reading Room
- March 11: Drake Symphonic Band Concert, 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium
- March 12: Drake Choir/Chamber Choir Pre-Tour Concert, 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium
- March 28: Eating Tomorrow, Agribusiness, Family Farmers, and the Battle for the Future of Food with Timothy Wise, 6pm, Cowles Reading Room

## Important Dates

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| March 15    | Midpoint of semester                            |
| March 18-22 | Spring Break                                    |
| March 25    | Mid-Term Grades Due by 10am                     |
| March 29    | Last day to drop a Spring 2019 class with a W.  |
| March 29    | Faculty Development proposals for Fall 2019 due |

[Submit News](#)

## A&S Newsletters

While we can compile some of this information from reports and official Drake news, we want to be able to share what everyone is doing! Please share your ideas on how to make the newsletter better as well as news around campus. If you or your students are doing something really exciting, SUBMIT YOUR NEWS!