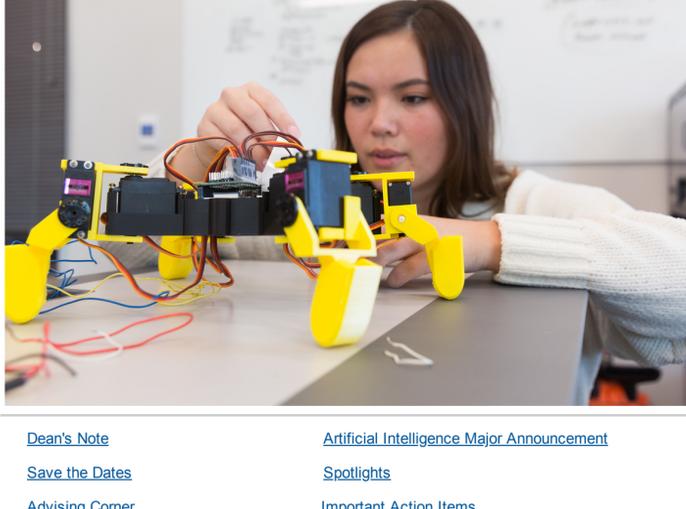




A&S Newsletter

March 09, 2020

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Dean's Note

Dear all,

I hope you all enjoyed the gorgeous weather this weekend. It's iced latte season again (if you ever stopped)! Our business as usual is a bit interrupted by the need to come up with a plan in case of a campus disruption or closure. Thank you for finalizing your alternative teaching plans. We are also preparing for staff and personnel to work remotely if needed, and are asked to create a business continuity plan. In the meantime, let's continue to wash our hands frequently, avoid touching our faces and shake people's hands. I hope your travel plans are not interrupted too much by the spreading of the virus.

We had a busy Friday with 160+ admitted students and their families on campus. There was great energy surrounding mock classes, overview sessions and student panels. We know that the yield from these activities is very high, so thank you for showcasing so well all that makes up Drake. Already by mid-day tuition deposits were up!

At the Global Citizen Forum Symposium on Friday students presented their research at several concurrent sessions. The Juried Student Art Exhibition opened on Sunday—check out the amazing student work that is on display in the Anderson Gallery through April 12. The Drake Choirs are going on a regional tour this week. This is just a small snapshot of student events—please send us announcements and accomplishments, so we can share with everyone.

Summer and fall schedules are now live for students to see. As you meet with advisees to help with schedule planning, please let them know about the many summer classes that will be offered, in seat and online. A recent internal report showed that many students transfer classes in to Drake at the end of the summer, classes that we hope they would take here instead. At the same time, many of our offerings don't make enrollment and get cancelled. These are not only community college classes, but classes from some of our peer institutions. Please market our summer offerings—they provide a chance for our students to get ahead in their program, to catch up, to fulfill an AOI or to try out experiential learning opportunities. The best place to do that is here at Drake! Summer also provides exceptional opportunities for middle and high school students to come to Drake for summer camps. Please see below the big grant Tim Knepper received that will secure three years of Interfaith Youth camps at Drake.

We made it to the midpoint of the semester (almost!). I wish you all a relaxing and warm spring break, and hope you get to do whatever you like to do best! Stay safe and healthy!!

Have a good week!

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Dean's Office Hours

The Dean will not be holding office hours in the next two weeks due to Spring Break!

Artificial Intelligence Major Announcement

The Artificial Intelligence major has been [officially announced!](#) The new program will enroll its first students in Fall 2020. Artificial intelligence and automation are expected to impact tasks in nearly every industry in the coming decades. The Bachelor of Science/Bachelor of Arts in artificial intelligence program will equip students to reflect critically upon the fundamental assumptions of artificial intelligence; respond to the many ethical, legal, and societal implications of artificial intelligence; and become proficient in foundational formal concepts in mathematics, computer science, linguistics, and logic necessary to create artificial intelligence systems. More information about this degree is available at drake.edu/artificial-intelligence.

Save the Dates

A&S Honors Convocation

The A&S Honors Convocation will be held in Sheslow Auditorium at 6:30pm on April 16th this year. Please come and support your students as they receive their awards!

132nd Annual Iowa Academy of Science meeting and DUCURS

The **132nd Annual Iowa Academy of Science** meeting will be held on April 17-18, 2020 on Drake's campus. The meeting will start the day after **DUCURS** (Thursday, April 16th) ... so the timing is excellent if you have students working in research. You do not have to be members of the Academy to participate.

More information about the Iowa Academy of Science can be found [here](#). The meeting will be held in conjunction with the 88th Annual meeting of the Iowa Junior Academy of Science – this will bring more than 200 elementary, middle, and high school students and teachers participating in the sciences to campus.

Faculty Spotlights!

Tim Knepper, professor of religion and director of The Comparison Project, in collaboration with the Des Moines Area Religious Council, received a grant for \$287,280 to support their ongoing Interfaith Youth Leadership Camps. In addition to supporting three years of camps (2020–22), the grant enables Drake to host the Iowa Interfaith Conference in 2021 and 2022, to pilot interfaith “camps” for working professionals, to support interfaith programming on Drake's campus, and to fund Drake student presentations at local, regional, and national conferences.

Mark Vitha, professor of chemistry, received the Non-CPHS Teacher of the Year award at the Health Professions Day on February 27th.

Maura Lyons, professor of art, was featured in the recent issue of “The Iowan Magazine” in an article focusing on the Scott Chapel.

Sandra Patton-Imani, professor of sociology, was awarded the Slay Fellowship for Community Engaged Learning from the Office of Community Engaged Learning. This appointment will come with the opportunity to create experiential learning partnerships with the Des Moines community. More information about the fellowship can be found [here](#).

Peter Levi, professor of environmental science & sustainability, published a manuscript in Ecological Applications entitled: [“Ecosystem responses to channel restoration decline with stream size in urban river networks.”](#)

Jody Swilky, professor of English, was awarded the 2020 Principal Global Citizen Award honoring his work with global engagement.

Student Spotlights!

Andrew Hokanson, biology major, is the recent recipient of a \$1000 grant from the [Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture](#). This grant funds Hokanson's research on “Ecological evaluation of the growth of cover crop species in single and mixed species seedings.”

Spanish minors and majors **Josie Martin**, **Elizabeth James**, **Genesis Diaz**, **Robyn Michalec** presented their research papers and a poetry reading and discussion in Spanish, this is the second annual panel (in Spanish). Maddie Topliff presented research she completed during the 2020 Guadalajara j-term (in English).

Advising Corner

- **Registration:** In preparation for the registration, please contact your advisees and offer to meet with them and discuss registration for Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and J-term 2021. Inform advisees that the registration runs **Monday, Apr 6 through Wed, Apr 15**; set the dates on which you hold advising appointments; provide information on how they can reserve an advising appointment with you; indicate a link to the registration page as a resource; and explain how you expect students to be prepared for their advising appointment with you.
- **Summer Class Registration:** As you are advising students, please encourage your advisees to make the most of summer break by taking summer classes at Drake! The College of A&S has a rich variety of summer courses on the schedule, many of which are online and/or uniquely developed for the summer session. Taking summer classes at Drake could be a great way for your advisee to focus on a challenging course, explore their interests, lighten up their load during the regular academic year, and facilitate fulfillment of graduation requirements.

- The **J-Term Fair** will be held on Tuesday, March 10, from 4:00 to 6:15 p.m. in Parents Hall showcasing both on-campus and off-campus J-Term courses. The [main J-term page](#) is located here. For detailed information on travel seminars, [do a program search](#) here.

- **Check your class schedule:** With the posting of the summer and fall 2020 schedule, along with J-term 2021, please take a moment to ensure the accuracy of your course offerings. Ensure you're not teaching two courses at the same time (save a stacked course) and that your course(s) caps are correct. If edits need to be made, please alert your department's schedule builder.

- With midterm exams this week, please keep in mind the following:

If the **student's accommodation** requires a reader, scribe, or assistive technology (e.g., screen-reader software), contact Student Disability Services (515-271-1835 or 515-271-2917).

The Dean's Office provides testing accommodations on Mondays at 9am and Wednesdays at 3.30pm. During the semester, we ask for at least four full business days prior to the requested need. However, if you are unable to provide student accommodations for midterm examinations on a shorter notice and for different times/days, contact Natalie Bayer as soon as possible.

- **Midterm grades** are due by 10:00 am on Wednesday, March 25. Students are able to view their midterm grades as soon as you submit them. To access the link, log into myDrake, click on the “Grading” icon under the Faculty & Advising section, and then click on the “Mid Term Grades - Submittal Link.”

Midterm grading is an important retention tool. Providing early feedback to students gives them a sense of how they are doing in your course and lets them know where they may need to make adjustments while they still have time to do so. On the basis of midterm grades the Dean's office and advisors can provide outreach to students struggling academically.

Please submit a midterm grade for all first-year students in your course(s). Please also consider entering midterm grades for any student whose midterm grade is D or F.

- Students have until 4:30 pm on Wednesday, April 1 to **drop a course** with a “W” using the Add/Drop Form [available here](#). After this date, a student may drop a course only if the instructor and/or dean's office find extenuating circumstances that would make the drop appropriate.

Important Action Item:

Faculty Development Grants

Faculty Development Grant applications for the 2020-2021 fiscal year are due by **March 27th**. Please use [this form](#) to submit your proposal to [Kayla Jenkins](#).

From OnCampus:

- The Holiday Schedule for 2021-2022 has been posted. [Find the schedule here](#).
- A tornado drill will be held on March 25th around 10am. Please plan your classes accordingly.
- A Town Hall by President Martin will take place on March 10th in the Cowles Reading Room from 3:30-4pm on the Core value of Commitment to the Mission. This will be followed by the Provost's Social.

Reading Corner:

ITS has best practices for [“Preparing Your Class for the Unexpected and/or Emergencies”](#) on their portal page. This includes information on how to best utilize Blackboard to its fullest potential, including video conferencing!

Upcoming Events

These events are on the 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 15: Carmina Burana: Choral Performance by the Drake Community Choir and Des Moines Symphony, Des Moines Civic Center, 2:30pm. [Tickets are for purchase here](#).
- March 3 - March 22, 2020. [DRIP PAINTINGS IN THE STYLE OF JACKSON POLLOCK](#). Weeks Gallery, Harmon Fine Arts Center, Drake University. An exhibition of paintings created by teams of students in the Material World of Art course. After an introduction to Pollock's life and work including photos and films of the famed US artist in the act of painting, the artists fashioned their own responses using Pollock's style.
- Through March 22, the traveling poster exhibit of “Some Were Neighbors” from the U. S. Holocaust Memorial Museum to Drake's Meredith Hall. This poster exhibit explores how “neighbors” made individual choices that amount to collaboration, complicity and resistance to Nazi Germany's persecution of Jews.
- On April 3-5, Drake University will host the fourth annual Iowa Interfaith Conference. This year's conference features and interactive poster session, panels on religious literacy and interfaith leadership, and site visits to local Muslim, Buddhist, and Hindu places of worship. The conference concludes on the afternoon of Sunday, April 5 with a multi-faith concert that serves as a fundraiser for educational materials for a tutoring program at a local Somali mosque at which Drake students regularly volunteer. [For more information and to register](#).
- April 9: “[Ostracism: Psychological Consequences of Being Ignored and Excluded](#),” a lecture by Dr. Kipling Williams, distinguished professor of psychological sciences at Purdue University. 3pm in Olin Hall.

A&S Important Dates

All of these dates are located [here](#).

- March 13: Midpoint of the semester
- March 16-20: Spring Break
- March 25: Midterm grades due by 10am
- Marcy 27: Faculty Development Grant applications for 2020-2021 year due
- April 1st: Departmental Award Forms due
- April 16: A&S Honors Convocation; 6:30pm

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