



## A&S Newsletter

November 18, 2019



For the last week of October, students in Prof. Eduardo García-Villada's Spanish classes installed four memorials in Meredith to celebrate Día de los Muertos.

### Dean's Note

Dear all,

As I was watching the coverage for the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, I was struck by the realization that the wall has been gone for a longer time than it was up. At the time, the Cold War seemed to last an eternity! When I first started teaching European history, I showed the students my piece of the wall that I had collected the night of November 1989, and I shared with them how we were dancing on the wall. The students did not need much prompting to understand the significance of the little rock and the larger political change—they remembered seeing the footage on the evening news. For today's students the Cold War seems as distant as the Middle Ages. And how much else has changed! Not only are our students so much younger than they used to be, but the questions about the costs of higher education, the value of a liberal arts education, and the emphasis on applied learning and professional career paths seem more urgent than ever. I am thrilled that at Drake we are not just on the defensive, but we have actively embraced these challenges and are responding with experiential and applied learning opportunities that prepare our graduates for life and careers after Drake. The implementation of new pathways, certificates and majors helps us stay on top of changing trends and student interests.

Speaking of new majors... we have 19 students with a declared major in Spanish! Cabinet and Council just approved a proposal for a new major in Artificial Intelligence, and we are working on new pathway options with a graduate degree in Applied Behavioral Analysis, a PSY + Counseling Degree, as well as STEM pathways. Our Pre-Engineering dual degree is also gaining traction. Computer Science is searching for a faculty in Cybersecurity and is implementing a certificate option in the field.

Many of our faculty searches are in the midst of conducting on-campus interviews, and I expect to make another job offer this week. Finally, we are currently interviewing candidates for a new budget manager for the college. We hope to have somebody in place by January. Thank you for everybody's patience and support as we navigate everything with a reduced number of staff.

Let me conclude by inviting you all, faculty and staff, to join us for an end-of-the-semester celebration on Friday, December 6, 2-4pm in Levitt Hall. There will be some reporting and time for discussion, but also plenty of time for socializing and catching up with colleagues from across campus. It's that time of the year—and yes, it has been that kind of semester!!

Enjoy your Thanksgiving break, if I don't see you before then. I have a lot to be grateful for.

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### United Way Campaign

Thank you to all who gave to the United Way Campaign last week! The University recorded a new participation record of 533 donors (including 23 from A&S) and raised over \$53,000, surpassing our giving goal! This also means the campus will close all day next Wednesday, November 27 to get Thanksgiving break started a bit early. Thank you to Joni Kinnan in particular for being our A&S campaign captain!

### Save the Date!

**A&S All Faculty & Staff Meeting and Holiday Reception:** Friday, December 6, 2:00-4:00pm in Levitt Hall. As mentioned above, there will be a short agenda and Q&A with ample time for snacking, socializing and celebrating the holiday season to thank everyone for their good work this semester.

### Advising Corner

- Please share this summer research opportunity with your advisees:

The Washington University Summer Engineering Fellowship ([WUSEF](#)) program is designed to encourage exceptional students from backgrounds underrepresented in the STEM fields, including underrepresented minority students, students from economically disadvantaged and underserved backgrounds and students with disabilities, to participate in engineering research. Fellows will enjoy a rewarding summer research experience at one of the nation's top universities.

Fellows will be selected for their intellectual promise, curiosity and motivation. Prior research experience is not necessary. Students from mathematics and the physical sciences, as well as engineering, are welcome to apply. Projects will be in the general areas of mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, biomedical engineering, chemical engineering, computer science and materials science. Potential applications include medicine, renewable energy, pollution control and nanotechnology.

- We will have only one week of classes after Thanksgiving break. In preparation for finals week, please check (and encourage your students to check) the [final exam schedule](#). The final evaluation period is Dec. 9-13 (Mon.-Fri.).

### Student Spotlight: Lorien MacEnulty

Lorien MacEnulty, a triple major in Physics, Math and Journalism, has been selected as a Rhodes Scholarship finalist! Wish her well as she continues preparing for the upcoming interview process. Lorien was also previously a finalist for the Mitchell Scholarship. Well done!

### Mental Health First Aid Training

Do you know how to help your students when they are having a crisis? Have you ever wondered how you can help them further? Sign up for [Mental Health First Aid in Higher Education](#) training lead by Dr. Christine Urish, Occupational Therapy faculty, taking place on Tuesday, January 21st, 8:30-4:30 in the Occupational Therapy Building. Mental Health First Aid is designed to give people the skills to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a crisis. The workshop is supported by the Provost office, as well as the College of Arts and Sciences. **To register for the workshop, please email [natalie.bayer@drake.edu](mailto:natalie.bayer@drake.edu) by December 18th.**

### From OnCampus:

- This week is International Education Week, an opportunity to celebrate the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. Check out some of the [many events](#) going on around campus to participate in this nationwide global celebration, including a town hall preceding the Drake Social on November 21 at 3:30pm in the Cowles Library Reading Room.
- You can complete the Campus Climate Assessment Survey until November 26. We encourage all faculty/staff/students to fill out this survey! For more information about the purpose of this survey, [click here](#).
- Don't forget the Open Enrollment Period for Benefits will end December 2. The Benefits Portal is available through MyDrake. An info session will take place on Thursday, November 21, 2:00-3:00pm in the Olmsted Center, Room 310.

### Reading Corner

"5 Ways to Welcome Women to Computer Science" by Janet Davis (Nov. 18): <https://chroniclevitae.com/news/2271-5-ways-to-welcome-women-to-computer-science?cid=VTEVPMSED1>.

### Time Sheets over Thanksgiving

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, biweekly time sheets will need to be submitted early. Please submit time sheets for the 11/11-11/24 pay period by 10:00am on Wednesday, November 20, estimating hours for 11/20-11/24 if necessary. Contact Korine Jackson with any questions.

### Upcoming Events

All of these events are on the University Calendar at [calendar.drake.edu](http://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!

- November 18: [Jazz Combo Night](#), Turner Jazz Center, 7:30pm
- November 20: [Arabic Evening](#), Pomerantz Stage, 5:00pm
- November 20: [Low Brass Studio Recital](#), Sheslow Auditorium, 7:30pm
- November 21-24: [Pippin](#), directed by Erin Horst, Performing Arts Hall; evening performances at 7:30pm on November 21-23, afternoon performance at 2:00pm on November 24
- November 21: [Chinese Cuisine and Tea Workshop](#), Medbury Honors Lounge, 11:00am
- November 21: [Saxophone Studio Concert](#), Turner Jazz Center, 7:30pm
- November 22: [Opening Reception for Carbon 2019 Exhibition](#), Weeks Gallery, 4:00pm
- November 24: [Drake Choir, Chamber Choir, Chorale, and Drake University Community Chorus's Winter Concert](#), Sheslow Auditorium, 3:00pm
- December 2: [Keys to Excellence Recital featuring Nicholas Roth](#), Sheslow Auditorium, 7:30pm

### A&S Important Dates

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

- November 27-29: University closed for Thanksgiving (including all day on Wednesday due to a great United Way Campaign!)
- December 1: Travel grants, call #3 due
- December 6: Dead day
- December 9-13: Finals week
- December 18: Final fall semester grades due by 10:00am
- December 20: University closed for holiday break after 4:30pm

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