



College of Arts & Sciences

Joseph Lenz, Dean  
drake.edu/artsci

In August, we welcomed the class of 2021 to a campus with a new skyline. The addition of the Science Connector Building (connecting Fitch and Olin Halls) and Collier-Scripps Hall (directly south of Olin) have changed our profile in more ways than one. The Science Connector Building has added much needed laboratory space for our biochemistry/molecular biology and kinesiology programs, and consolidated three animal care facilities into one. The greenhouse now sits on the roof of the building, as does an astronomy observation deck. The Department of Mathematics and Computer Science relocated from Howard Hall to the top floor of Collier-Scripps, placing it adjacent to the other sciences.

#### Collaborative Learning

More than that, we have added several flexible classrooms: floor-to-ceiling white boards, adjustable seating for small- and/or large-group work, wireless technology with multiple monitors on which to display student work. These classrooms were designed to promote collaborative, project-based learning that has replaced the static, “sage-on-the-stage” lecture with active, participatory, theory-into-practice application. Take, for instance, Professor Dan Alexander’s Computer Ethics course, in which students partnered with the Young Women’s Resource Center to conduct a donor analytics project. Professor Michael Haedicke’s Environmental Sociology uses “case study” pedagogy, where students practice using sociological concepts to analyze concrete examples of environmental problems, such as water quality in Iowa. Professor Angela Battle’s Planets provides an introduction

to the sciences through art making, risk-taking, and experimentation, their products displayed in a revolving exhibition in the Weeks Gallery.

Professor Carol Spaulding-Kruse’s First-Year Seminar, Talking with the Enemy, and Professor Joanna Mosser’s Crime and Punishment classes partnered with *The Des Moines Register* civil dialogue series #Unitelowa to produce a series of five dialogues on race and issues of education, criminal justice, democracy, science, and immigration at various locations in the metro area. In Case Studies in Analytics, taught by Professor Eric Manley, students are placed into teams to investigate analytics tools, explore how businesses use data analytics in innovative ways, and develop a new idea into a business proposal. In Spring 2017, students built models for (1) pricing and predicting yogurt sales for Hy-Vee and (2) recommending roadway improvements to reduce crashes in the Des Moines area for the Des Moines Area Metropolitan Planning Organization.

I can go on, but you get the picture. The days of sitting in rows and parroting rote memorization are long over. Now, faculty and students learn collaboratively, together, producing knowledge, asking questions, and finding answers that address real-world concerns. This is why we call Drake’s learning environment distinctive. This is what we mean by integrating liberal arts education with professional preparation. This is why our students have a 99 percent accomplishment rate.

#### In Student News

- Megan Lindmark, environmental science major, spent the summer at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) in Panama working on their Agua Salud project regarding water shed around the Panama Canal.

- Rowen Sabala, vocal performance major, stars in a made-for-TV and online opera, *Vireo*, which aired June 13.
- Claire Garreans, junior kinesiology major, interned in Sydney, Australia, at the Sports Medicine Institute.
- Eight Drake music students and two professors traveled to Beijing for a 10-day seminar at Minzu University. Participants were flutists Kaylee Johnson, Chloe Hickok, and Sonya Benzmiller, as well as pianists Adam Poole, Mary Traxler, Christina Johnson, Steven Strong, and Max Cichock. Professors Nicholas Roth and Leslie Marrs taught master classes and performed a faculty recital. Professor Roth stayed at Minzu to teach local students and judge a competition. All of the students who traveled to Beijing took part in master classes, attended performances of the ethnic minority orchestra and Mongolian quartet, as well as performed a solo and chamber music recital. Excursions to the The Great Wall, Red Square and the Forbidden City, and other sites around the city rounded out the trip. Minzu students **who have studied and will study** at Drake—Xingyu Lucy Huo, Cenyiyang Clark Chen, Jialu Fan, Kaiyan Wang, and Xinyu Li—were an incredible asset as translators and tour guides during this residency.

#### And In Faculty News

- Liza West, associate professor of English, co-organized the 20th anniversary symposium of the Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society.
- Will Garriott, associate professor of law, politics, and society, received a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation to conduct research on marijuana legalizations and markets in Colorado.
- Lourdes Gutierrez Najera, assistant professor of anthropology; Darcie Vandegrift, professor of sociology; and five students from A&S worked

with Kevin Lam, assistant professor, urban and diversity education, to create the Community Research Summer Scholars Program (CRSSP). Fifteen Des Moines high school student scholars from refugee and immigrant communities will gather at Drake for three weeks to create audio story interviews about Des Moines as a transnational city. Funded through the Nelson Pressing Global Issues Grant, CRSSP will create a series of story podcasts to share with teachers and other interested community members.

- Deborah Kent, associate professor of mathematics, was honored with the Halmos-Lester R. Ford Award from the Mathematical Association of America for exceptional mathematics writing in *The American Mathematical Monthly*.
- The philosophy and religion department teamed up with the Iowa Sikh Turbanators, Des Moines Area Religious Council, and the Interfaith Youth Core to host a weeklong camp for 12 high school students from local religious groups. During the camp, these students are creating digital stories about their personal faith experiences and practices as well as learning about each other’s faiths.
- With the assistance of alumni Jim Holsapple, LA’80, Ruth Lier, LA’50, GR’52, and others, the physics department sponsored an astronomy summer camp for area high school students. Under the direction of Charlie Nelson, associate professor of astronomy, the campers toured the observatory, learned about telescopes, and produced a poster about Hubble time (not the dining hall) and the age of the universe.



College of Business & Public Administration

Daniel Connolly, Dean  
drake.edu/cbpa

It’s been said that life should not be measured by how many breaths you take but rather by the number of moments that take your breath away. For me, receiving the invitation to join Drake as dean of the CBPA provided just one of those moments. In my previous roles at the University of Denver and Portland State University, I admired Drake from afar for its innovation with experiential learning and extraordinary commitment to student success. I am pleased to be part of this great Bulldog community, working with amazing colleagues and stakeholders to shape the future and advance the CBPA to the next level.

I follow Dean Terri Vaughan, which is no easy feat. Under her leadership, the CBPA achieved many notable milestones, including but not limited to the adoption and implementation of the hybrid MBA, a new delivery model to provide greater flexibility, access, and accommodation for working professionals; success in numerous regional and national student case competitions; **and jobs for more than 95 percent of the 2017 graduating class.** Additionally, the CBPA’s marketing major gained national, prime-time recognition on *The Today Show* for its Top 5 ranking in Princeton Review’s *Colleges that Pay You Back*. That ranking is based on academic excellence, exceptional student preparation and career placement, and overall value—the very things that are core to our mission.

Another significant achievement and sign of continuous quality improvement is re-accreditation through AACSB International, the premier accrediting body for business schools. Only 785

business schools out of more than 16,000 worldwide hold this highly coveted designation, ranking the CBPA among the top five percent of all business schools in the world. We are truly among the best of the best thanks to our remarkably dedicated and talented faculty, staff, and students, and the incredible commitment and support of parents, alumni, employers, community partners, and donors.

#### New Year, New Faces

This fall, I am excited to welcome nearly 1,300 new and returning students to the CBPA. Joining me in my inaugural year as dean are four new faculty colleagues:

- Anna Clark is an assistant professor in the MPA program. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Denver and her master’s and PhD degrees from the University of Texas at Dallas. Prior to Drake, Dr. Clark was on the faculty at Texas Women’s University.
- Lendie Follett is an assistant professor of business analytics. She received her undergraduate, master’s, and doctorate degrees from Iowa State University.
- Douglas Bujakowski is an assistant professor in the School of Actuarial Science and Risk Management. He completed his undergraduate studies at Ohio State University and his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- Denise Hill is an associate professor of practice in public administration and will teach in the MPA program. Her undergraduate degree is from Wartburg College. She also holds MPA and JD degrees from Drake.

#### The World Is Our Business

With renewed energy following summer break, the inspiration a new academic year brings, and a strong foundation upon which to build, we are not resting on our laurels. This is our decade and our opportunity to achieve