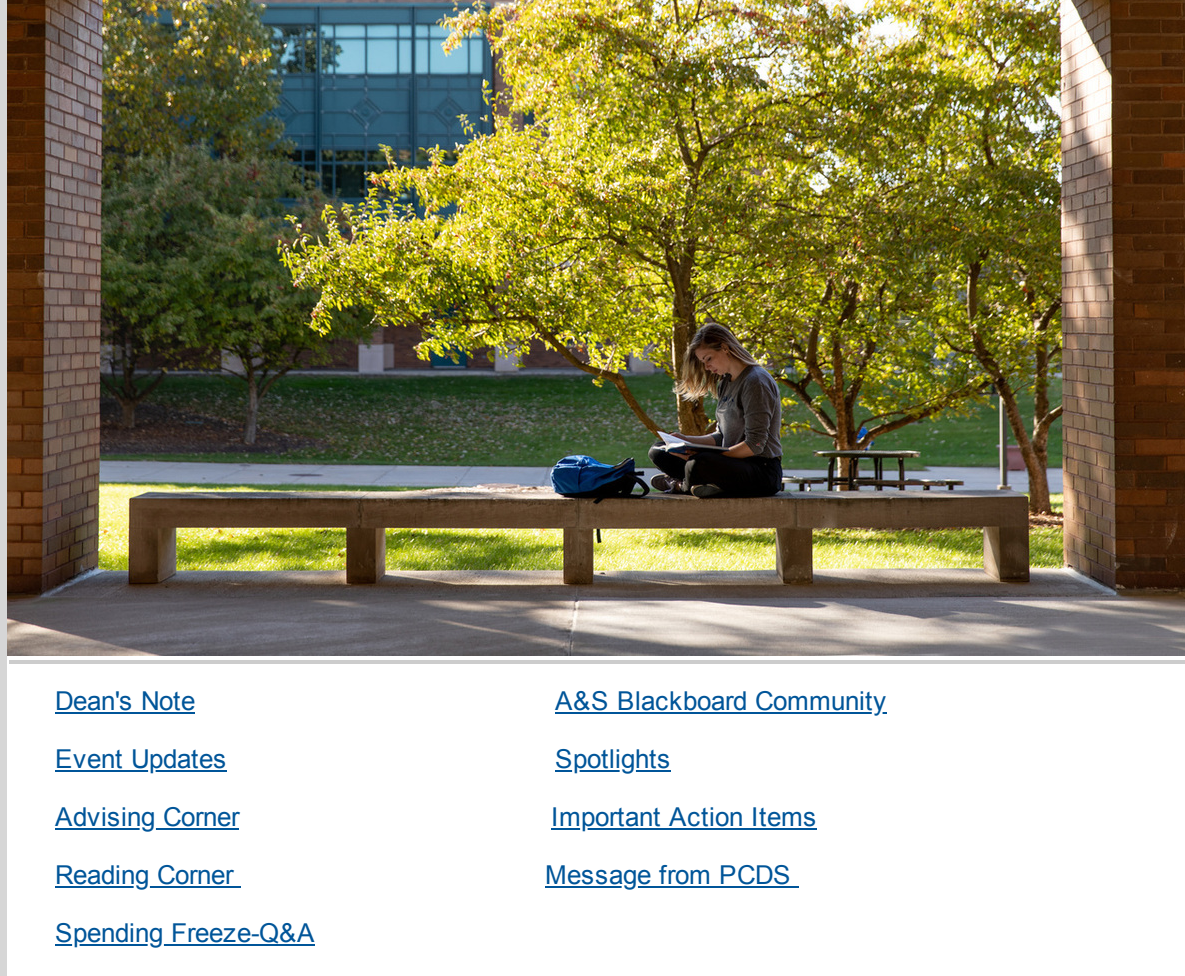


A&S Newsletter

April 13, 2020


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Dean's Note

Dear all,

The photo above looks like a beautiful relic from another time, when students hung out on campus, in lounge areas and coffee shops. Week 4 of teaching and working remotely has had a different flavor for me. Reassuring routine has set in, virtual meetings are happening without any hick-ups, and I hear many good things about creative and effective teaching experiences. At the same time, there are moments where I feel utterly alone, desperate to get an immediate feel for the pulse of our academic life, and I can only hear it faintly in my headsets. The email inbox is buzzing and a lot of things get done, but at the same time other tasks that were so urgent before spring break have taken a back burner as we navigate this crisis and focus on the most essential of all tasks: to get our students to complete this semester successfully.

As teachers we are used to being on our own. We create our syllabus, prepare for our classes, meet with our students and grade their assignments. We don't need anybody to check in on us. But as this month of teaching remotely has highlighted, it is the campus environment, the quick conversation with our colleagues in the hallway, the response from students as we look in their faces during lecture, lab, or discussion, that connect us, that give us the reality check, that help us to know that things are working. And without that, we feel at a loss.

If we feel lonely and overwhelmed, I can only imagine how our students feel. They came to Drake to live on campus, they made friends in their classes, they excelled in group work and ensemble productions. They studied in the busiest of all places, they met friends in coffee shops, in the Knapp Center, and the library. They attended athletic events, stayed up late with their roommates, and took breaks together from their studies. That's why they came to Drake to begin with. None of that is happening now. They went home to stay with their parents again, they lost their jobs, and they have to help family members and friends. They are on their own, trying to figure out different class assignments and virtual platforms. They navigate synchronous and asynchronous class schedules, sometimes from a different time zone. They don't get recognized for good work by their peers, on stage during a performance, or on the basketball court. Some of them have checked out, have fallen behind, or are unable to connect.

Thank you all for stepping up your efforts to connect to your students. Thanks to advisors for meeting with students virtually to guide them. Thanks to the associate and assistant deans for using Starfish and any other student support measure around to find these students, to connect with them and to help them finish the semester successfully. Thanks to department chairs for keeping your departments together, for creating spaces to exchange ideas, lament and be creative. Thanks to administrative assistants for supporting faculty, students and deans remotely, for keeping the office going, and for connecting with each other. Thank you all for making this work, for keeping your good spirits, and for giving each other support. You are my heroes.

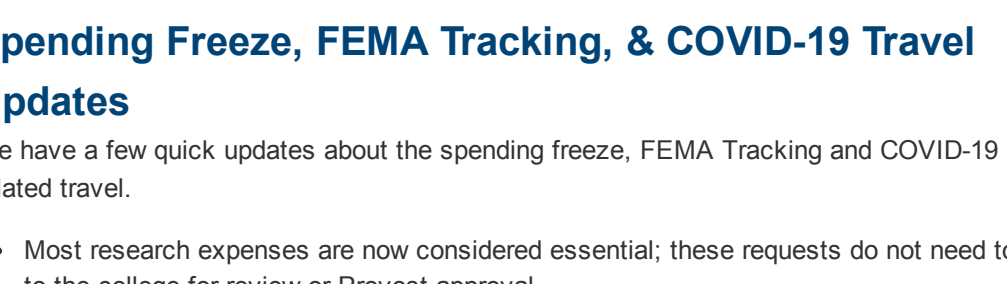
Gesine

Dean's Office Hours

The Dean will be hosting office hours from 3-4:30 on MS Teams on Tuesday, April 14th. Please use [this link](#) to join in a conversation with the Dean!

A&S Faculty Resource-Blackboard Community

To help facilitate conversation and the sharing of information/ideas among the A&S Faculty, we have created a Blackboard Community with an open discussion meeting that is always available, discussion boards, and a mentoring group that you can join. To access the community, log into Blackboard, then access the community tab in the upper right hand side of the menu. If you are not already enrolled in the community, please let [Kayla Jenkins](#) know that you wish to join! If you have any additional content that you would like to see in the community, please feel free to share your input with Kayla as well.



Spending Freeze, FEMA Tracking, & COVID-19 Travel Updates

We have a few quick updates about the spending freeze, FEMA Tracking and COVID-19 related travel.

- Most research expenses are now considered essential; these requests do not need to come to the college for review or Provost approval.
- With the online teaching of all courses this summer because of COVID-19, the University is asking all the colleges to track expenses that are related to teaching the courses online. These expenses are expenses that would not have occurred if you had been teaching in person. If you are making the purchases please contact your admin so they are aware of the purchase and can add it to their tracking sheet. If you are asking your Admin to make the purchase please tell them this is COVID-19 related expense.
- Just a reminder that University travel is suspended through May 31st. If the travel ban is lifted in June, all travel will need special approval by the Provost during the spending freeze through at least June 30th. Please send any travel request to Ashley Rasmussen.
- If you have any other questions regarding the spending freeze or financial expenditures, please contact [Ashley Rasmussen](#).

Event Updates

A&S Honors Convocation

We are celebrating the A&S Honors Convocation this year!! All awards will be announced in a video that will be released on April 16! Make sure you watch it (and like it!)

Faculty Spotlights!

Tim Knepper, professor of philosophy and religion, received a grant of 30k from the Wabash Center for a collaboration project entitled "Teaching Philosophy of Religion Inclusively to Diverse Students." The project will be conducted in conjunction with Dr. Gereon Kopf of Luther College and Dr. Nathan Loewen of the University of Alabama.

Michael Haedicke, professor of sociology, was featured in The Conversation with his article, "[How coronavirus threatens the seasonal farmworkers at the heart of the American food supply.](#)"

Student Spotlights!

Madelyn Bjork, senior, has been awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in Bulgaria in the 2020-2021 year.

Cydney Ratliff has received a full-tuition Brown Fellowship to attend the Engineering Dual Degree program at Washington University in St. Louis. This is highly competitive award given out to only a small number of students each year.

Alumni Spotlight!

Haley Petras, alumna, received an Honorable Mention in the 2020 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program. There has only been one other Drake graduate who has received an honorable mention.

Advising Corner

- **Registration:**
 - Registration for summer, fall and J-Term classes starts today. Your advisees can view the registration schedule and determine when they become eligible to register for summer 2020, fall 2020, and J-term 2021 classes [here](#).
- **Change of Record Form:**
 - If you're working with an advisee needing to make an update to a major/minor/concentration, please encourage him/her to complete the change of record request found at MyDrake > Student Records Tab > Change of Record Request. Completion of this form will send a message to the Registrar's Office who will update the student's record. The Dean's Office will then make an advisor assignment.
- **Financial Holds:** Advisees with financial holds on their account, are urged to contact stuacci@drake.edu to determine if a hold can be lifted to allow registration. Small holds may be eligible for a temporary lift to allow registration.
- **Course Overrides:** To assist students needing an override to add course(s), keep in mind the steps for setting a registration override – MyDrake > MyDUSIS > Faculty & Advisors Tab > Registration Overrides. From here, remember you may need to set more than one override to allow a student's registration.

Message from Professional and Career Development Services

Big Interview

We are excited to introduce Big Interview, an online system that combines training AND practice to help improve your interview technique and build your confidence. Big Interview offers a variety of tools including:

- Challenging, virtual mock interviews for all experience levels and hundreds of industries
- A database of thousands of interview questions with tips on how to answer them
- The ability to rate and share your interview answers for feedback from career staff
- A comprehensive video training curriculum covering all aspects of landing a job
- A step-by-step interview Answer Builder for crafting answers to behavioral questions

To access Big Interview, register using your Drake email address at: <https://drake.biginterview.com>.

Linked In social media manager, to offer career advice

SJMC alum **Lucille Carver, JO'12**, social media manager for LinkedIn, will conduct a remote guest lecture on **Monday, April 13, at 6 p.m.** Carver previously worked for McDonald's, Hickory Farms and Chicago's Field Museum. Carver will talk about her job, how to maximize your LinkedIn profile and how her job has changed while navigating the current environment.

How to participate:

April 13, 2020 6 – 7 PM Central Time
[Join Zoom Meeting](#)
 Meeting ID: 553 061 319
 Password: 921529

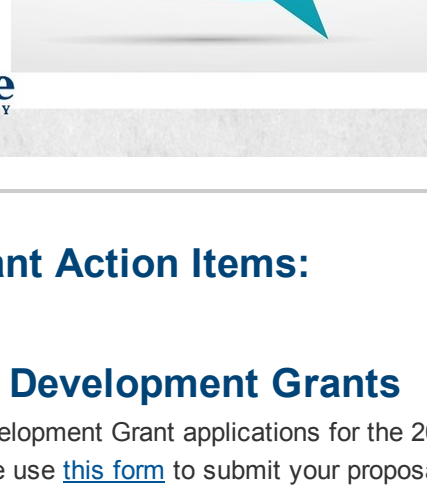
How COVID-19 is Impacting Summer Internships & New Grad Hiring

A panel of employers from the Des Moines metro will share with area graduate students how they are responding to the impacts of COVID-19. Discussion topics will include delivery of summer 2020 internships, hiring projections for new college graduates, and changes to recruitment and selection of new employees. Hosted by area universities, including Drake, in collaboration with the Urbandale Chamber of Commerce. [Register as a non-member](#).

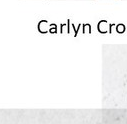
Ask Us Anything

Recordings of the "Ask Us Anything" conferences sponsored by Professional & Career Development Services (PCDS) are available at the following links:
[Ask Us Anything – Seniors](#)
[Ask Us Anything – All Students](#) (the first couple of minutes had some tech issues)

Professional & Career Development Services



Chrystal Stanley



Annette Watson



Leah Berte



Carlyne Crowe

Important Action Items:

Faculty Development Grants

Faculty Development Grant applications for the 2020-2021 fiscal year are now due by **April 15th!** Please use [this form](#) to submit your proposal to [Kayla Jenkins](#).

Curriculum Committee Submissions

The last meeting for the A&S Curriculum Committee is scheduled for April 20th. Any course changes or new course proposals should be submitted prior to that date in order to be considered during this academic year.

Tenure-Track Clock

Tenure-track faculty can choose to pause their tenure clock by one year. Faculty have one year to request this change and can withdraw the request at a later time. Please email Gesine and Sue with the request. Please cc Kayla Jenkins and your department chair.

Waiver for One-on-One Teaching

While classes are being taught remotely, under certain circumstances, professors can ask for permission for one-on-one teaching situations (applied lessons, individual work in research labs, etc). To request permission, please fill out this [waiver form](#).

Managing Emotional Stress

Danielle Green, Director of Student Counseling Center, is offering a session on managing stress levels and cope with stress on April 16th at 9am that is open to students, faculty, and staff. To register for the session, please use the [following link](#).

Zoom Security Issues

The National Institute of Standards and Technology has banned usage of Zoom in their communications due to serious security and privacy issues. [CBS](#) recently reported that Zoom is attempting to fix these issues, but it is recommended that usage of Zoom for educational purposes be limited. Additionally, Zoom is not currently supported by the University ITS.

Reading Corner:

[Check out this article](#) discussing adding compassion to online curriculum; why it's essential to emphasize human interaction in remote teaching.

A reminder: the Chronicle of Higher Education is a free service provided to faculty and staff through the Cowles Library. [Please see the information here on how to sign up!](#)

A&S Important Dates

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

- April 15th: Faculty Development Grant applications for 2020-2021 year due

[Submit News](#)