



A&S Newsletter

September 29, 2020

[Dean's Note](#)[IND/INT Registration](#)[New Faculty](#)[Professional and Career Development Services](#)[Spotlights](#)[Advising Corner](#)[Important Action Items](#)

Dean's Note

Dear all,

We are getting closer to the mid-point of the semester. Students, faculty and staff have settled into the semester routine, even though every week seems to bring new surprises, doesn't it? I guess that is just how 2020 will continue to be! A special challenge is the number of students who have to quarantine and take classes remotely for short periods of time. The contract tracing seems to work, that's the good news! When you receive these notifications about a precautionary health concern for a student (now the email comes directly from dean of students' office via Starfish), please reach out to your student. We know students are already under a lot of pressure, and the need to quarantine in a dorm room even when one is not sick will add further stress. An email from you checking in will be very reassuring.

Spring schedules went live Monday, and I trust you have seen Provost Mattison's email announcing that spring break was moved to January 25-29. The spring semester will begin on Monday, February 1. Just like this fall, the first week of classes will be completely virtual. After that, we will have a mixture of classes taught remotely or in person. Thanks for submitting the information about the modality of your classes. Students will now be able to see on MyDusis if a class is online or f2f, and can choose and plan accordingly. Please also note that classes need to adhere to their assigned schedule, no matter what modality. Please make use of scheduled class times for synchronous learning activities, these are helping our students stay engaged.

A couple other big announcements were made in the last few days. To recuperate some of the time lost prepping for online and blended classes this year, all tenure-track faculty can request two course releases spread out over the next seven years. Or, faculty can choose to take one year of their sabbatical clock, and take the next sabbatical one year early to focus on scholarship. We will be working with department chairs to figure out the logistics and the process for these course releases, and to make sure that we offer the classes our students need to progress. Please also remember to start keeping track of your Independent Studies, as they are now being counted toward teaching load.

Fundraising is going strong again, after some regrouping over the spring and summer as the pandemic hit and created economic uncertainties for many. We had some generous donations come in over the last few weeks creating scholarships for students with a Music major, students in Arts & Design, and in Music Education. We are working with another donor who is passionate about supporting STEM at Drake, and we are hopeful that this gift will come through.

As of this fall, we have two new majors in the Arts & Sciences: American Politics and Artificial Intelligence. We are also working on more pathway options that combine and potentially accelerate students' pursuit of an undergraduate and graduate degree. Thank you all for working on these new programs that will help Drake stay competitive and continue to bring students to our campus. The new Bright College will be another major contender in the search for new students, and it will be highly attractive for students who otherwise would never consider Drake or go to a four-year college. Those interested in teaching in the Bright College in the inaugural year will need to submit their note of interest by October 1.

This note got way longer than intended. Lots going on—thanks for reading! I will hold open office hours next week, stop by if you like to chat. It seems that there was less "traffic" since these have been held on Zoom. It must be because there is no coffee! So, for my next office hours I'll be sitting in the Cowles Library Café, with a mask on and at a big table. If you show up in person, the drink is on me! I will also have my laptop and keep the Zoom meeting open, in case you want to chat that way. I look forward to seeing you either way!

Gesine

New Faculty Bios: Arturo Marquez, Jr!

Training and background: Originally from the US-Mexico borderland, his bi-cultural, bi-lingual upbringing inspired his pursuit of a career in anthropology. He completed his BA in Anthropology at San Francisco State University, where he had his first opportunity to live and conduct research in Europe on migrant housing rights in Berlin, Germany. After getting his BA, he returned to Europe to get his MA in Anthropology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona. His Ph.D is from Northwestern University.

Research: Arturo's research looks at the production of "life worlds" at the margins of state power, specifically among Senegalese men who are identified as "irregular" (i.e. "illegal," "undocumented") by the Spanish state/EU and rely on "occupied" spaces (i.e. "squats") in the urban landscape of the Barcelona metropolitan area. He is currently preparing manuscripts on the role of religion, gender, and ethics in the process of building a unique kind of transnational community. Given the current state of the world, he is especially interested in reflecting and writing on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on West Africans living in Catalonia, Spain.

Teaching: Arturo has taught at Northwestern University, DePaul University and Malcolm X College in Chicago. Malcolm X College was especially rewarding because it offered him the opportunity to work students from diverse backgrounds, many of whom were first in their family to pursue a college education. Before joining Drake, he taught at the Shandong University of Science and Technology in Jinan teaching Cross-cultural Management and US language and culture.

Fun Fact: Arturo started playing the saxophone in 5th grade and was a member of junior and high school marching bands in Calexico, CA. He also plays the guitar and has been exploring electronic music in the last few years. Arturo is going to be a father for the second time in late November!

Dean's Open Office Hour

The Dean's Open Office Hour will take place on October 6 from 2:30-4 in the Cowles Library Café and/or Zoom. Please stop by or use [this link](#) to join!

Class of 2024

Our new class of first year students in the College of Arts & Sciences stands at 386 as of census day in early September. That is a great number considering the unusual circumstances of the last recruiting cycle and our sudden move to virtual recruiting in March. Our target was 390. Thank you for all your fantastic work recruiting and reaching out to our students! The total number of EFRs for Drake was 735, plus 85 transfer students. Arts & Sciences students make up 53% of the incoming class!

Advising Corner

Proactive Advising

Those of you who are advising first-year students will be getting requests for pre-registration meetings from your advisees. This year, a mandatory pre-registration meeting is a part of an assignment all first-year students need to complete in Bulldog Foundations. Students prepared at least three questions to ask their advisors and will need to submit a reflection assignment about the meeting closer to the end of the semester.

If you are working with those advisees who may have ended the spring semester on academic probation (note that students who would have been suspended at the end of the spring, were instead placed on final probation), in preparation for the registration, please help these students identify coursework which may be retaken, or to create strategies for better study skills.

Upcoming Midterm Grade Entry

Midterm grades are due by 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct 19. Please enter midterm grades for all first year students. While, ideally, you also will enter midterm grades for all students in your courses, if that is not possible, please be sure to enter midterm grades for those upper-class students with a C, or below, in your courses.

As you meet with your advisees, if you receive inquiries about dropping a course with a W and concern that doing so will result in being moved to part-time standing, please reassure the student that dropping with a W will not result in part-time status.

Complete the Progress Survey(s) by Friday, Oct 2

Over the last two years, Progress Surveys on Starfish have proven to be an efficient and effective way to gather valuable faculty input and coordinate early intervention. The Fall Progress survey is now open until 10/2/2020 10:00 PM CDT to allow you to choose the best timing for providing feedback.

Step by Step instructions to access Progress Survey for your course(s):

Note: The Progress survey is mobile friendly. You can access the survey through your mobile devices and use the same process as well.

1. Login to Starfish, the link is on the MyDrake portal under Faculty and Advising Resources.
2. A link to your Outstanding Surveys will be displayed at the top of your Starfish homepage.
3. Once you reach the survey grid, simply check the box next to the particular student's name for whom you would like to provide encouragement through a kudos, refer to a resource or raise a concern. You will have options to add comments.
4. **What if I want to add more details?** When you check off a box to raise a flag on a student you will see a **more note icon** appear next to the student's name. Click that icon to add a comment.
5. Click Submit. If you don't have any progress to report, it is important that you click Submit, so we know you reviewed the survey.
6. Items you raise will be addressed by the appropriate Drake staff.

Watch a [two minute video](#) on how to complete a survey in Starfish!

Title IX Reporting Procedures

There is an [updated guide](#) to student resources and reporting procedures on Title IX. The process has been revised so as to be consistent with the new regulations from the U.S. Department of Education. If you have any questions, please direct them to Jessica Morgan-Tate, Title IX Coordinator, Equity & Inclusion Policy Specialist.

Important Action Items:

Intent to Apply for Promotion to Full Professor

If you intend to go up for promotion to full professor in Fall 2021, please send an email notification to your department chair and [Kayla Jenkins](#) by October 1st. Tenure-track faculty who will be undergoing their mandatory tenure review do not need to submit their intention.

Friends of Drake Arts Faculty Grant Applications (Fine Arts Faculty Only)

We are now accepting applications for Friends of Drake Arts faculty grants. These grants can be used for scholarship and artistic endeavors (such as supplies). Applications should include a description of the activity, a timetable, and a budget. Please note that University funded travel is not allowed at this time—so no grants will be given out for travel. Please send application material to [Kayla Jenkins](#) by October 1st.

Budget Requests

To request funds for attending virtual professional conferences and for materials for teaching blended and/or virtual classes, please fill out the [following form](#) and return to [Ashley Rasmussen](#). Full-time faculty are eligible for up to \$500 in funds for registration to virtual conferences. Requests for teaching materials will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The dean's office will submit requests to the provost's office for final approval.

[COVID-19: University Updates Page](#)

Independent Study/Internship Registration

To register for an independent study or an internship, students and advisors will make their faculty to [fill out the form](#) and obtain the required signatures. Students and advisors will make every effort to be sure that students enroll in courses (especially those required for degree completion) when they are regularly offered. Individuating or extenuating circumstances that prevent students from taking courses when regularly offered will be taken into consideration.

Student Spotlights!

The [Religions of Beijing](#) book, which is a bi-lingual, collaborative, student-authored (Minzu) and edited (Drake) photo-narrative about religion in Beijing that was funded through the Nelson Institute's Pressing Global Issues grants, was just released. There will be a book launch on October 13th that features the students, photographers, funders, etc.

Faculty Spotlights!

Kathryn Hamilton and **Klaus Bartschat** were awarded over 1500 core-hours of time on Frontera, one of the most powerful supercomputers in the world. In NSF accounting, this corresponds to about \$250,000 in computer resources for the next year

Melisa Klimaszewski, professor of English, had two positive reviews of her book *Collaborative Dickens: Authorship and Victorian Christmas Periodicals* appear in [Dickens Quarterly](#) and [Victorian Periodicals Review](#).

[Submit News](#)

Professional and Career Development Services Update:

Please encourage your students to register for the following events provided courtesy of Professional & Career Development Services.

- **October 5, 2020: Careers in Social Change – Policy and Governance Panel**, 4:00 pm-5:00 pm (Virtual Event)
 - Panelists: Retired Senator Tom Harkin; Lobbyist David Adelman; and Staff Attorney for the Iowa Environmental Council, Michael Schmidt.
- **October 6, 2020: Virtual Career Fair for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)** (students from multiple schools will be attending), 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm (Virtual Event)
- Registration opens for November 12, 2020: Diversity Career Fair (Employers and grad programs who are seeing diverse students), 3:00 PM-6:00 PM (Virtual Event on Handshake)
 - Students Register through [Handshake](#) beginning **October 15**.

Reading Corner

["7 Ways to Assess Students Online and Minimize Cheating"](#) Access to The Chronicle of Higher Education is available for free via Cowles.

Upcoming Events

- October 1: Jazz I Concert, 12:30-1:45pm, FAC Arcade
- October 1: Join Drake's Anderson Gallery [LIVE](#) on Facebook on Thursday, October 1 at 7pm for artist talks and discussion by textile artists Ann Clarke and Anna Carlson.
- October 2: Marching Band Concert, 4:30pm (No Audience, Link pending)
- October 12: Wind Symphony Concert, 7:30p.m., (No Audience, Link pending)

A&S Important Dates

The full fall calendar is located [here](#).

- October 1: All are due to Kayla Jenkins
 - Intent to Apply for Promotion to Full Professor in Fall 2021
 - Friends of Drake Arts Faculty Grants due (for fine arts faculty only)
- November 2: [Sabbatical Applications for FY22](#) due to Kayla Jenkins

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