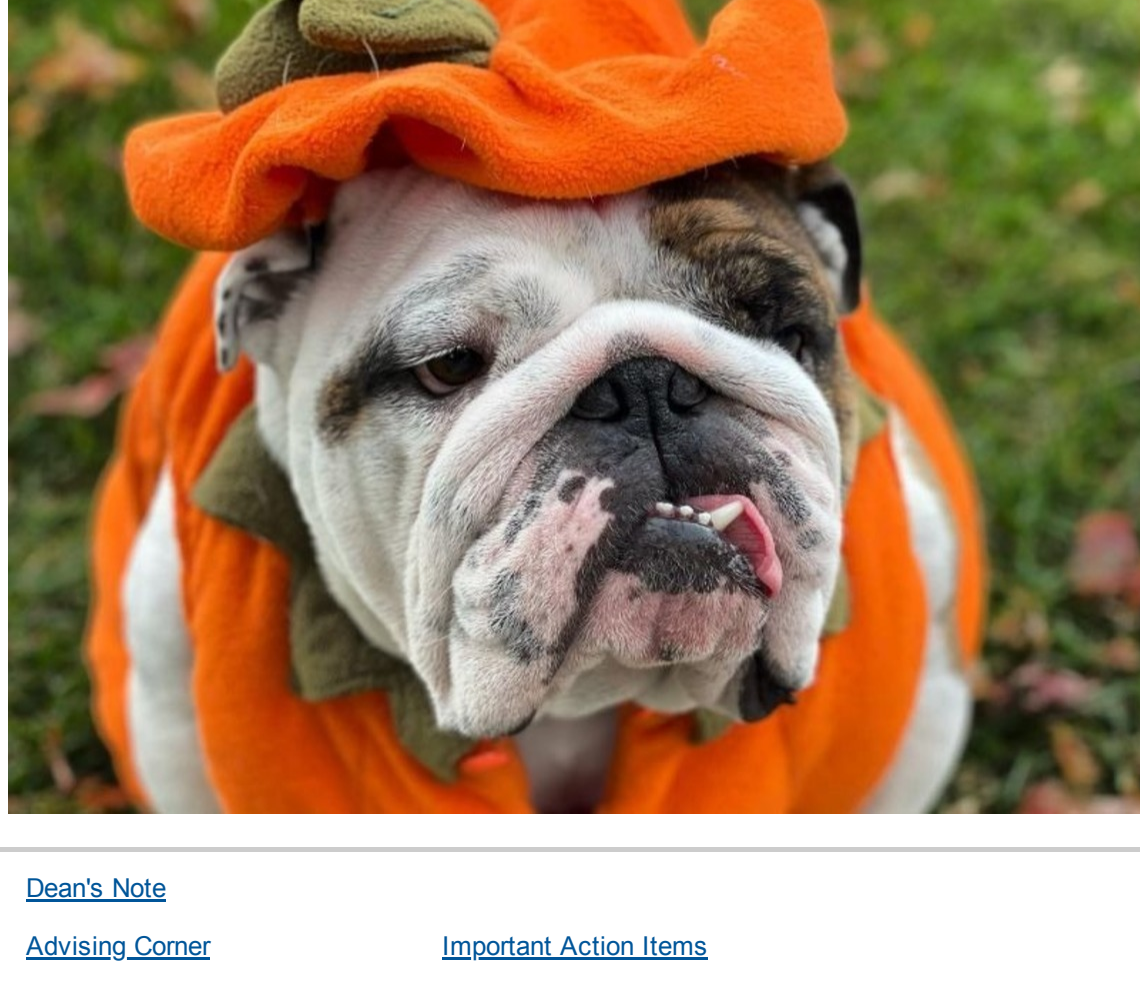


A&S Newsletter

October 25, 2021



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Dean's Note

Dear all,

I hope your week is off to a good start. Mid-term grades are turned in, heaters are humming in our offices, and Thanksgiving is in sight. There is no denying it—we have entered the home stretch of the semester.

A few updates as we move into the second half of the semester. Meredith Hall: the Board of Trustees gave the final budget approval for the planned renovation of Meredith Hall, and things are proceeding as planned. In addition to the replacement of the old HVAC system, auditoriums and other spaces will be updated and improved. One of Drake's most important classroom buildings will get an interior facelift while conserving the historical significance of this Mies van der Rohe building. Current spaces are being looked at to make the building more accessible, flexible, and best suited for changing teaching and learning needs. Thank you all for thinking about your fall 2022 schedules so early! The registrar is now working on a draft schedule to identify crunch times and accommodate as many classes as possible. The university is looking into a variety of other spaces where classes or office hours can be held. A steering committee is in place that will share regular updates as we get closer to the renovation date. I will keep you posted! Thank you in advance for your patience and flexibility as we deal with this major disruption. A reminder that the building will be closed completely from mid-May to December.

Admissions: Thank you to all of you who are participating in the many admission events. It's the hot phase of campus preview days, with academic overviews, campus tours, and meetings with prospective students. To reach our unprecedented target of 425 first-year students in the Arts & Sciences we need all hands on deck. A big shout out to Maria as she coordinates and leads all A&S recruitment events with such attention to detail and outcomes. Recruitment Plan 3.0 is in action and working as smoothly as can be. Thank you all! As my own son is now a senior in high school, I see the complex college search process through a very new lens. And I love what I see in A&S!

Faculty development grants: Please submit your faculty development applications to Kayla by October 29. We made it through 1.5 years of a pandemic that saw a dramatic reshifting of travel, research, and development plans. As you gear up again, please know we have reserved funds to support your endeavors and innovations. It's your turn to let us know about your projects so that we can support you!

I know that you all are engaged in curriculum review discussions with your department. That is a lot on top of all the urgent things that need to get done. Let's not lose sight of our most important mission, to provide a curriculum and a learning environment that students today and in 10 years can relate to and find meaningful as they prepare for their future careers. Please let me know if you have any questions about the process or the outcomes.

Please check out the other announcements in this newsletter. You will meet our new Assistant Dean, Will Hatchet, who joined us 10 days ago. His office is located in FAC 280. Stop by if you are over here in this corner of campus! Join the Drake Symphony orchestra for their haunted concert on Saturday, October 30, Professor Hector Agüero's first since joining Drake in August. Attend the 100 Year Anniversary Celebration of the Drake Municipal Observatory on November 5—a gem in the Des Moines community and a great partnership between the city and Drake. Finally, check out the accomplishments of your colleagues listed below. Please keep us posted on your own news so that we can brag about you!

Join me for my open office hours tomorrow, if you would like to chat. And yes, it's going to be in the Starbucks Café in Olmsted, where coffee can be found. See you soon!

Gesine

Dean's Office Hours

Gesine will be available from 4-5pm on Tuesday, October 26th for open office hours. You can join her on [Zoom](#) or in the Olmsted Starbucks.

Welcome To Our New Assistant Dean, Will Hatchet

Will is originally from Chicago, IL. After completing his BA in Sociology and Africana Studies at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL, he came to Drake in 2010 to earn a master's degree in Public Administration. From 2011 – 2014, Will served as New Student Academic Facilitator at Drake, assisting in retention and outreach efforts for new Drake students across the university. For the last 7 years, he has served as a cultural center coordinator at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo and as an Academic Advisor at the University of Oregon and at Iowa State University. Will is excited to return to the Drake community to serve students, faculty, and staff in the College of Arts & Sciences.



Fun fact: Will is a wood artist and a beer enthusiast.

As Assistant Dean, Will will be working with the open-enrolled and pre-professional students, exchange students, re-enrolling students, and students at risk of not meeting good academic standing thresholds. He will lead the college's retention initiatives and initiatives related to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the A&S student body. Other responsibilities include supporting programming efforts for Orientation and Welcome Weekend, supporting A&S students in accelerated graduate programs within Drake and their associated partners and students transitioning from John Dee Bright College to a College of Arts and Sciences undergraduate degree program.

Advising Corner

Post-midterm and pre-registration advising

As you are meeting with your advisees in preparation for registration and with students in your classes about their midterm grades, please encourage them to seek information about, and make decisions relative to, their academic status. The **deadline to drop a course** with a "W" is **Monday, Nov 1** at 4:30 pm.

If a student is registered for 12 credits now, dropping a course with a W will not take them to part-time standing.

Requests to drop with a W after November 1st should be directed to Associate Dean Natalie Bayer and should be accompanied by evidence of an extenuating circumstance to justify the withdrawal.

Registration for the Spring 2022 Term will begin Monday, Nov 1

Students' registration time for the spring 2022 semester is based on the number of credit hours they've earned. Students can view their [registration date/time](#) and access many helpful registration resources, including a video on how to register and a listing of courses restricted to certain programs during the first two weeks of registration, on the [Registrar's Page](#).

For registration tips and hints to share with your advisees (such as [this registration guide](#)), please utilize the new A&S Advising community accessible to advisors by clicking on "Organizations" on the left panel in Blackboard.

If you are working with a student who is considering going to law school, please direct them to attend these sessions on Wednesday, October 27 from 4-5pm

- Pre-Law Overview and 3+3 Drake Law Overview
- Pre-law specifically from 4-4:30, 3+3 overview specifically from 4:30-5pm
- [Zoom Link](#)

Faculty Spotlights

Deborah Symonds, professor of history, had her book [Elizabeth Fox-Genovese: Paternalism's Daughter](#) published by the University of Virginia Press in June 2021. In the first major biography of this singular and controversial scholar, Deborah Symonds explores Fox-Genovese's enormous personal archive and traces Fox-Genovese's life.

Susan Garneau, visiting assistant professor of history, was interviewed by DM Cityview for their article, Fleet and Cap: a baseball parable. You can view the entire article [here](#).

Rachel Paine Caufield, professor of political science, was quoted by BBC News regarding Donald Trump's recent rally in Des Moines. The article can be found [here](#).

Drake Municipal Observatory 100th Anniversary Celebration

November 5, 1921, saw the formal dedication of the Drake University Municipal Observatory. Besides being a research-grade laboratory for the advancement of Astronomy, its function was, and still is, a place where the public is invited, (actually encouraged) to observe through this window to deep space. At the time of its construction, it was the only Observatory that had a regular public observation.

Dr. Daniel W. Morehouse, Astronomer, Physicist, and President of Drake University was the driving force behind the Observatory. His enthusiasm is still evident within the walls of this edifice in that research and public viewing continue into its second century.

The Observatory will be hosting an anniversary celebration on November 5th from 6-8pm. The anniversary will be addressed on KCCI; [watch the video here](#).

Important Action Items:

Sabbatical and COVID Course Release Applications

Those who are eligible to apply for sabbaticals in AY 2022-23 have been notified. Sabbatical applications are due to Kayla Jenkins by **November 1st**, with your department chair cc'd.

As a reminder, faculty who taught in 2019-20 can apply to take up to two course releases or shorten their sabbatical clock by one year. [COVID Course Release Applications](#) for AY 2022-23 are due to Kayla Jenkins by **December 1st**.

Friends of Drake Arts Grants

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. The deadline to apply for funding in the spring semester is November 1. Please send the FDA grant applications to Kayla Jenkins.

Faculty Development Grants

These grants can be used for scholarship and collaborative projects. Applications should include a description of the activity, a timetable, and a budget. The deadline to apply for funding in the spring semester is October 29th. Please send the [grant applications](#) to Kayla Jenkins.

Reading Corner

A propos mid-term grades...check out [this article](#) in the Chronicle reflecting on what really goes into making the grade.

A&S Events

The full calendar is located at [calendar.drake.edu](#).

- October 28; Drake Writers Night: Halloween Edition; 7:30pm; Medbury Honors Lounge
- October 30; Drake Orchestra Hauntcert; 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium
- November 6; Leslie Marrs Faculty Recital; 3pm; Sheslow Auditorium
- November 11; Jazz I Concert; 7:30pm; TJC

A&S Important Dates

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

October 25

- Last day for student major/minor changes before registration

October 29

- [Faculty Development Grant](#) applications for Spring 2022 due to the dean's office

November 1

- Spring 2022 course registration begins November 15 Second-year faculty reviews due to the Dean
- Sabbatical Leave Applications due to the Dean
- Last day to drop a class without extenuating circumstances
- Final grade entry available for faculty

November 15

- Second-year faculty reviews due to the Dean

[Submit News](#)