

## A&S Newsletter

October 5, 2021



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### Dean's Note

Happy Tuesday!

I hope your week is off to a good start. October has brought gorgeous fall weather, crisp apples, and beautiful foliage. Got to love Iowa, especially at this time of the year!

This newsletter brings a few timely reminders of due dates, upcoming concerts, and accomplishments. It also includes a heartfelt farewell to a former colleague, Professor James Lindberg, who some of you will remember well. And it allows me to announce that we are close to welcoming a new assistant dean to the college. Will Hatchet will join us from Iowa State, where he worked as an academic advisor. It is a homecoming of sorts, as Will was a founding member of our successful CREW program. If everything goes as planned, Will's first day of work will be around fall break. We will introduce Will more formally after he has arrived on campus.

We are grateful for several generous gifts we have received in the last week or so. These gifts will have a tremendous impact on a large number of students, as they will allow us to replace two broken machines in the Bio labs and to update the student lounge in FAC. Both of these projects were long overdue!

Recruitment activities have geared up and have already brought many prospective students to campus. More will come on our first fall preview day scheduled for next Monday, October 11. Thank you all for your crucial participation in the myriad of events, be it virtually, in person, via email, phone or postcard. These one-on-one interactions are the reason why high school seniors ultimately sign up for Drake, as it is a preview of how we take care of them once they become Bulldogs. The census date in mid-September revealed that this year's entering first-year student count landed at 759. We experienced a significant melt just before the semester started (we had 810 tuition deposits!), as students deferred attendance, faced visa issues, or shied away at the last minute for financial reasons. As cost of attendance is the most often cited reason for declining to come to Drake, fundraising for student scholarships remains a high priority.

Spring schedules are live now and I know you are meeting with your advisees to plan for their spring semester registration. You all have been asked to submit fall 2022 schedules way earlier than usual as a draft schedule will help us plan for the closure of Meredith Hall in May 2022. On top of that, you are all looking at your curriculum to review areas that can be updated or revised. Your department chairs are doing a fabulous job staying on top of all these challenges. What a leadership team!

Last but not least, please know that we have faculty development funds available to support you in your scholarly activities, creative endeavors, and pedagogical innovations. Applications are due on the last Friday of October. You can find the form on our webpage or [linked here](#).

Thank you for your good work!

Gesine

### Dean's Office Hours

Gesine will be available from 4-5pm on Tuesday, October 12th for open office hours. You can join her on [Zoom](#).

### Stalnaker Lecturer 2022 Announcement

Thank you to all those who attended the 37th Annual Stalnaker Lecture on September 23rd! The lecture was recorded and is still available at [live.drake.edu](#) if you missed the event.

Thank you, Maura Lyons, for the wonderful lecture on the satirical collages of the U.S. Civil War.

And congratulations to our 38th Stalnaker Lecturer recipient, **Michael Renner**, professor of biology and psychology, who will be presenting his lecture in Fall 2022!

### Advising Corner

#### **Share with you advisees on pre-professional tracks**

We wanted to alert you to some informational sessions regarding pre-professional (pre-med, pre-engineering, pre-law, etc.) pathways. These sessions are open to all Drake University students but geared towards the College of Arts and Sciences curriculum. All sessions will be virtual, so if a student cannot make it, they can email [ask.as@drake.edu](mailto:ask.as@drake.edu) to request the session recording of their preference.

- Monday, October 11 from 3:30-5pm
  - Pre-Engineering session on registration tips and with Chris Kroeger, Washington University representative
  - [Zoom link](#)
- Thursday, October 21 from 3-4pm
  - Pre-Medical Planning (including pre-dental, pre-vet, and pre-PA)
  - [Zoom link](#)
- 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](#)

#### **Advisor Forum**

Join us for an informal session to touch base on frequently asked advisor questions on **Wed, October 13th 3:30-4:30 p.m. in SCB 301**. Feel free to drop by as your schedule allows to catch up with colleagues, determine if study abroad really is an exception to the last 30 hours rule and learn why those students taking a last course in J-term are really not December graduates. We would welcome your other questions – submit them anonymously by clicking [here](#).

#### **A&S Academic Advising Community on BB Ultra**

As you are preparing to meet with your advisees prior to the registration, please utilize the new A&S Advising community that contains information and resources necessary to foster successful advising, from general graduation requirements to student support resources and practical tips on how to help your advisees prepare for an effective advising meeting and documents to share with them like [this registration guide](#).

You should be able to access A&S Academic Advising community by clicking on "Organizations" on the left panel in Blackboard. [Here is a screenshot](#) of where you can find "Organizations" on Blackboard.

#### **First-Year Advisees/Proactive Advising**

Those of you who are advising first-year students will be getting requests for pre-registration meetings from your advisees. A 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 pre-registration advising meeting closer to the end of the semester.

#### **Complete the Progress Survey(s) by Friday, Oct 8**

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 10/8/2020 10:00 p.m. CDT to allow you to choose the best timing for providing feedback.

#### **Upcoming Midterm Grade Entry**

Midterm grades are due by **10 a.m. on Monday, Oct 25**. 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. If you have an advisee(s) with two or more low midterm grades you will receive a notification from Alina Grimm or Mary Beth Holtey.

*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.*

#### **Funding Opportunities for Students**

We also want to bring your attention to various funding opportunities within the College of Arts and Sciences. Opportunities such as traveling to professional development events, conferences, presentations, scholarships, grants, and emergency funds are available

*Encourage students in need of additional financial support to check out our funding website and see if any opportunities apply to them.*

### In Memoriam: Dr. James Lindberg

It is with heavy hearts we share the passing of James Lindberg, professor emeritus of organic chemistry at Drake University. James passed away at age 81 on Sept. 23, 2021, at Bright Kavanagh House after a very short bout with pancreatic cancer. A Celebration of Life will be held on [October 6th via Zoom](#) at 12pm. James was a beloved and highly respected professor at Drake for approximately 34 years who will be missed dearly by his students, fellow colleagues, and friends. He published and presented a number of scientific papers; however, his passion was teaching. In lieu of flowers or gifts, James asked that we support education in its most inclusive expressions: Montessori, public schools, private and public colleges, and universities. Read James' [full obituary here](#).

### Fundraising Efforts

Thank you to Tom Moore for his generous gift to the biology department! Tom's gift will allow us to buy instrumentation for labs, and most importantly, two new autoclave machines.

Thank you to Frances Shloss for her generous gift! Frances' gift will fund the complete renovation of the Shloss Lounge in the Harmon Fine Arts Center. Fine Arts students began the drive last year and raised \$2,000 to buy computers and some new furniture for the lounge.

### 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 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. Deadline to apply for funding in the spring semester is due November 1. Please send the FDA grant applications to Kayla Jenkins.

### Reading Corner

- Special webinar announcement from NASA: Space Food
  - The webinar will have 2 panel discussions focused on new food production technologies or systems that require minimal resources and produce minimal waste, while providing safe, nutritious, and tasty food for long-duration human exploration missions and growing plants on the Moon and Mars. Both panels will include a former astronaut along with NASA and university scientists. The webinar will held from 12 noon to 3pm ET on October 12, 2021. [Register in advance here](#).

### A&S Events

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

- October 9: Faculty Piano Trio Recital: Maureen Yuen, Nicholas Roth, Ashley Sidon, 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium
- October 21: Drake Choir Concert; 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium
- October 28-31: Drake Theatre Presents: Student Theatre Showcase; Coleman Studio
- October 30; Drake Orchestra Hauntcert; 7:30pm, Sheslow Auditorium

### A&S Important Dates

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

- October 18-19
  - Fall Break
- October 20
  - Midpoint of the semester
- October 25
  - Midterm grades due by 10 a.m.
  - Last day for student major/minor changes before registration
- October 29
  - [Faculty Development Grant](#) applications for Spring 2022 due to the dean's office

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