

STUDENT FEATURE: MADI DWELLE

In high school, Madi Dwelle knew she was “interested in law and politics, but I wasn’t drawn to the typical college political science program.” At an admitted students’ day, Dwelle sat in on a discussion with Professor Cramer, who mentioned that her students apply for the CIA, FBI, and state department. Dwelle was “hooked.” She “knew that this program and the professors at Drake would help to guide me in the direction of a unique profession and future career.”

Now, her immediate goal is to move to D.C. and find a job on Capitol Hill, and in the long-term, she hopes to one day run for office. Her Drake education has “significantly helped me to develop those professional goals.” Dwelle says that her most “eye-opening” LPS experience came through hands-on learning: a class where she and other LPS students worked “directly with individuals as they sought U.S. citizenship.” She says that she “rarely leave[s] a class without learning something profound, a new way to approach a legal issue, or how something policy-related truly affects constituents.”

Dwelle worked at Senator Joni Ernst’s Des Moines office in the winter and spring of 2020, but her internship “ended before everything blew up.” Still, she saw the impact of COVID-19 on the office. In her last week, Dwelle “sat in on a videoconference with Senator Ernst and a few police officers... [who] expressed their concern with Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as the manufacturing plants in Polk County could keep up with demand due to the virus,” Dwelle says. A concerned constituent also called in to ask about establishing tele-health resources for immunocompromised residents and those unable to access hospitals.

STUDENTS, FACULTY, AND ALUMS TAKE TO TWITTER AMID COVID-19 PANDEMIC

With the cancellation of Drake’s in-person classes for the remainder of the spring semester, closure of the residence halls and dining services, state-wide stay-at-home-orders, social distancing recommendations, sick family members or friends, postponed events, and more, all of us have felt the impact of COVID-19 in one form or another. LPS students and faculty alike have taken to Twitter to raise awareness and voice their concerns about COVID-19.

In response to the current debate surrounding the economic consequences of social distancing measures, LPS Senior Joseph Miller tweeted “it’s weird because sacrificing human lives for the sake of economic growth has basically been bipartisan consensus forever but up until now pointing this out was considered uncivil.” Maddelyn Stuve, also an LPS Senior tweeted “some professors are really acting like the pass/fail option is a personal insult. NO.” The credit/no credit option is a special measure taken by the university to accommodate student needs in the shift to online classes. LPS alum Rebecca Perle took to Twitter to raise awareness about the importance of filling out advance directives: “i know most of us are young so we haven’t thought about things like advance directives but now really is the time. these allow for physicians to know your wishes regarding medical treatment if you can’t communicate them.” You can find free forms by searching ‘advance directives’ at AARP.org. Professor Cramer tweeted about her gratitude for her students, appreciating “how generous they were with each other, how committed they were to doing the work, how beautifully they transitioned to this new world of our learning.”



LPS Senior Madi Dwelle

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Online Peer Advising:** Wednesday 4/8 and Thursday 4/9 from 4-5pm via Blackboard Collaborate Ultra. An email will be sent out with the details!
- **2021 J-Term: Farms and Forms in Italy: Global Food Security and Sustainability** This J-Term with Dr. Canfield will explore food systems from a comparative and transnational perspective in Bari, Foggia, and Rome, Italy. Don't forget to register for all upcoming classes beginning Monday, April 13th!
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Drake has decided to postpone its "All In" charity donation challenge to support the Student Emergency Relief Fund. If you need help or would like to donate, you can find information at all-in.drake.edu