



A note from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

This past academic year we all faced unprecedented challenges to our traditional ways of teaching and learning. Yet, I am so proud of the success we were able to accomplish despite all the challenges. We feature some of the highlights in our [2019-2020 Year in Review](#).

Unfortunately, this coming academic year will not be without new and additional challenges. However, our current challenges provide us an opportunity to reimagine how we do community engagement and embrace the community as our classroom. Community engagement can help us foster a sense of belonging, togetherness and social connection when everything else feels like it is falling apart. This quarter's newsletter we present to you a handful of resources to support community engagement during these challenging times. I hope you find them helpful as you prepare for your fall courses.

As we embark on the beginning of a new academic year, I myself am about to embark on the beginning of a new journey as well. I'm preparing to welcome my first child and will be on maternity leave beginning Monday, Aug. 3. I plan to return to the office Oct. 26. Amanda Martin, Assistant Director of Community Engaged Learning, will serve as the main point of contact while I'm away. Amanda can be reached at amanda.martin@drake.edu and 515-271-2767.

I wish you the best as we both head into a season of ambiguity!



DU face coverings available at the [University Bookstore](#)

CEL during Covid-19

Covid-19 has certainly presented challenges to the traditional learning environment. However, the time to lean into the community as our classroom has never been greater. Check out our [Covid-19 CEL Resource page](#) for a curated list of resources to help you explore how you might integrate community engagement into your course in light of Covid-19 and the challenges it presents.

Campus Compact has also curated a national Knowledge Hub of resources focused on [Engagement in the time of Covid-19](#).



CEL Faculty Development

CEL Faculty Fellows [Sandi Patton-Imani](#) and [Sara Johnston](#) are available this fall to assist faculty in designing community-engaged learning courses or projects. Please reach out to them directly to arrange a time to meet.

Community Partnerships

Need an idea for a community partner who might align with your course/project goals? Please reach out to Ryan Arnold, Director of Community Engagement.

Mini Grants

There is a very limited pool of funds to support student community engagement expenses including project supplies, transportation to sites, and coffee cards to say thank you to community partner guest speakers. Please contact [Amanda Martin](#), Assistant Director of Community Engaged Learning for more information.

CEL Resource Library

Need ideas for how to integrate reflection into your course? How about classroom activities that promote exploration of identity, civic engagement or one's values? Check out our resource library at <https://researchguides.drake.edu/ce/>.

CEL Course Audit

This fall we are conducting an audit of all courses tagged with the [CEL Attribute](#). Please take a look at our [master list of CEL courses](#) and [let us know](#) if your course is missing or if your course no longer should be tagged. Courses with the CEL attribute means that the course contains the following components:

- **Learning Outcomes:** The community engagement activity is tied to one or more course learning outcomes.
- **Application and Integration:** Guided by their instructor and working with a community partner, students engage with a community issue (local, regional or global), integrating theory and practice.
- **Reciprocity:** The community experience seeks to offer value to the community partner as well as to the students.
- **Reflection and assessment:** Students intentionally participate in reflection on the community experience (ethical and civic dimensions), the discipline and themselves.



Changemaking at Drake

Campus interest in innovation, entrepreneurship and changemaking has been building for several years. In May 2020 Renee Sedlacek Lee, Director of Community Engaged Learning, Neil Ward, Associate Professor of Graphic Design, and Bill Adamowski, Executive Director of Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Human-Centered Design, were appointed co-chairs of the newly forming Changemaker Implementation Team.

The Vision is to create a university-wide culture that equips students with the skillsets, knowledge, and motivation to critically identify societal and organizational challenges and develop innovative and sustainable solutions that serve a rapidly changing world.

At Drake, a focus on Changemaking shifts attention, energy and resources from simply responding to community "needs" to developing solutions that change the systems (root causes) that create inequities and injustice.

This comes by understanding ones constructed reality, values, biases, and identity and using those lenses to work with the community. Drake Changemakers will have a bias towards action and recognize the historical and social context of the problems a community is facing, the policies and power structures impacting the problems, and collaborate with the people and groups already working towards solutions.

We are seeking faculty and staff who are interested in designing the future of changemaking at Drake. Interested in learning more?

Please contact [Neil Ward](#) or [Bill Adamowski](#).

Sprout Garden is Moving!

Sprout garden will be relocating this fall from it's Forest Ave location to make room for the DMPS Community Stadium project. The garden is tentatively planned to be located in the grassy area west of campus on 31st Street, just south of Drake West Village. The new space will allow us to expand our growing capacity and educational opportunities through the addition of native plants, trees, and permaculture. If you are interested in exploring how your courses might get involved with the garden please contact Assistant Director, [Amanda Martin](#).



New video resource for Grad Students

Looking for a way to introduce community engagement and the benefits of volunteering to your graduate students? We now have a 19-minute orientation video available on our YouTube channel. The video features a tour of the Drake Neighborhood, welcome from neighborhood residents and businesses, and Director Renee Sedlacek Lee providing an introduction to CEL at Drake, and reviewing the benefits of volunteer service in graduate school. Check it out below!

