



A&S Newsletter

July 2019



Rachel Caufield-Paine was the recipient of the 2019 Madelyn Levitt Mentor of the Year Award at the May Commencement Ceremony.

Dean's Note

Dear all,

I hope this newsletter reaches you in a good place, preferably near a pool, or otherwise in cool air (aka not in FAC—it's a sauna in here these days!). June has come and gone, and I am counting on July to bring relaxation, some travel, and renewed energy. Summer classes and summer camps are in full swing. We just finished the last of five orientation sessions. It was a smashing success and huge group effort. Thank you all for your time and good attitude welcoming 300+ new first-year students to the Arts & Sciences! As we greet the new class, preparations for the next recruitment cycle have already started. We are trying some new things with the Bulldog Days of Summer and an academic fair this year, and I know many of you have already signed up to represent your departments. Thank you!

Summer in the Dean's office is a good time to tackle questions that need greater planning and some distance from the daily grind. We are continuing to look into ways to recognize workload, and to compensate faculty for independent studies and undergraduate research. We are planning out the calendar for the year, and we have updated some forms. You can find more information below, but please note that the due dates for the travel awards have changed. We were able to increase the travel allowance for conference travel, and have funds to award one conference travel grant for each faculty per year.

Today marks the beginning of my second year at Drake. I have enjoyed every minute as your dean, even the meetings that went on for far too long and the more difficult moments—and you know they were there! I greatly appreciate your patience with me as I started to get to know this place, its people and culture. You extended support when needed, showed collegiality at every step and amazed me daily with your commitment to Drake, to your students, and to our community. I am thrilled and grateful to be part of this community. I look forward to year 2!

Have a wonderful month of July!

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Summer Orientation and Bulldog Days of Summer

We have had five Orientation sessions over the month of June, welcoming more than 300 incoming first-year students and their families in the College of Arts and Sciences. Many thanks to all the faculty, staff, and orientation leaders who contributed to making this endeavor a great success!

The new admissions cycle has begun already! We will hold four Bulldog Days of Summer on the following dates:

- July 22
- July 29
- August 5
- August 9

During these admissions events, high school students will visit campus for the first time. New this year is an academic fair where the students can visit with faculty from a variety of departments all gathered in one area.

Save the Date!

Please save the date for the following event in the fall semester:

A&S All-Faculty Meeting: September 20th from 2-4pm in Levitt Hall

Summer Employee Picnic

Tuesday, July 23 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Hubbell. It will be a State Fair theme, complete with fair style food options, a pie judging contest, and a few outdoor games (consider it our mini-midway). We will also be encouraging everyone to bring a non-perishable food item for the Drake Little Food Pantry in exchange for a raffle ticket and chance at prizes. I hope you can attend!

Form Changes

There are three form changes for the 2019-2020 year: Travel Grant, Faculty Development Grant, and Sabbatical Leave Forms.

Changes include:

Travel Grant

- \$1300 for domestic travel and \$1500 for international travel
- Due dates: July 1, September 1, December 1 and April 1 (for travel between now and September 1, please submit asap)

Faculty Development

- Due dates: Last Friday in October (for FY20) and Last Friday in March (for FY21)
- Final Report due 30 days after completion of the project

Sabbatical Leave Form

- Approval pending per Faculty Senate vote in September
- Due Date: November 1.
- Per new sabbatical guidelines, a faculty member is allowed one sabbatical per 7 years. 100% pay for one semester sabbaticals, 70% pay for academic year sabbaticals, and 85% for each fiscal year on calendar year sabbaticals.
- Faculty are eligible for their first sabbaticals in their 7th year of instruction at Drake.
- Pre-tenure sabbaticals are no longer available.
- Sabbatical Reports are due by September 15 in the academic year following the sabbatical. This will be a Qualtrics form provided by the Provost's Office.

Nominations Due September 1st

Please nominate a colleague for one of the three college awards. Nominations for the Stalaker Lecturer, Centennial Scholar, and Distinguished Engagement Award are due September 1st. All award descriptions can be found [here](#). For future details about how these are awarded, please visit the [faculty handbook in section 3.7](#).

Arts & Sciences Distinguished Engagement Award

The College of Arts & Sciences established the Distinguished Engagement Award to recognize outstanding contributions of Drake faculty and staff to the college community.

The nominee must be a current faculty or staff member with at least five years of service at Drake. The recipient will be announced at the annual Stalaker Lecture.

TO NOMINATE: [Submit](#) a letter of nomination detailing specific examples of how the nominee exemplifies each of the applicable criteria. Additional letters of support are not necessary.

Stalaker Lecture Award

Presented to a distinguished faculty member who is invited to present a lecture to the University community on a topic in his or her discipline in the following September or October. This award is funded in part by the emeritus professors of the College. Selection of the award recipient is by a committee consisting of the three most recent Lecturers and a representative of the emeritus faculty.

The lecturer must be a faculty member holding the rank of professor of at least in her/his fourth year at associate professor rank. Previous recipients are not eligible.

TO NOMINATE: [Submit](#) a letter of nomination in support of an eligible faculty member.

Centennial Scholar Award

Presented in even-numbered years to a faculty member in the College in recognition of distinguished achievements in scholarship. The criteria for selection include professional contributions through scholarly/creative activity, holding leadership roles in the profession/discipline, consulting activities related to scholarship and research, and contribution to the mission of the department, college, and university. Previous recipients are not eligible.

TO NOMINATE: Each department chair may [submit](#) faculty members as a candidates. The selection committee will contact departments to request additional materials for all finalists.



Physics Camp 2019

The 2019 Drake Physics and Astronomy Camp was held on weekdays from June 10 - June 21. There were 14 campers this year, from a variety of local schools; most were 8th, 9th and 10th graders. This year we focused on our solar system and so the activities were based on helping develop ideas about gravity, planetary atmospheres and moon systems. One day, "Aliens Day", was all about life beyond Earth. Throughout the two weeks, the campers worked in small groups to do some research and tell the stories of individual objects in our solar system. On the last day students presented their stories to the group. Pictures show students learning about angular momentum and our trip to the observatory.

The 2019 Drake Physics and Astronomy Camp was sponsored with the generosity of Ruth Lier.

In memoriam: Dale Miller

Dale Miller—former-pastor, author, activist, educator, and friend—passed away on May 21, 2019, while he was living at Brookdale Senior Living. He was 96.

Dale had a BA and MA in Religion from Phillips University (1944, 1945); a BD in Theology from Vanderbilt (1949); and a PhD in Church History from University of Chicago (1955). He taught religion at Drake University from 1954 until 1993 before earning emeritus status.

He is survived by his wife of 72 years, Betty, their 6 children, and many grandchildren. Dale was a professor, minister, and political activist. He lived a life of generous service and love.

Those who wish may donate in Dale's memory to St. Andrews Church, Raymore Christian Church, or the Foxwood Springs Fellowship of John.

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of Marie Fisher, retired administrative assistant for the Departments of Chemistry and Physics and Astronomy. Marie provided her dedicated service for 35 years until she retired in 2014. [Visit the full obituary here](#).

Faculty Spotlights

Hallucination Dream Sequence, a short film by **Benjamin Gardner**, associate professor of art, is an Official Selection for the Cosmocinema Film Festival 2019 in London, UK. [See here for more information](#).

Emily Newman, assistant professor of art, exhibits a new body of work at the Blanden Memorial Art Museum in Ft. Dodge, Iowa. Her show titled "A Consumer's Digest" explores the forms of mass produced product packaging in juxtaposition with individually hand made objects to understand the value of "things" in American culture. The materials Emily uses to create artwork—found and recycled packaging—reveal the precarious balance of being environmentally conscious while also taking part in convenient consumerism. For more information on the exhibition, [visit here](#). For a recorded artists talk, [visit here](#).

Renee Cramer, professor of Law, Politics and Society, received the 2019 Stan Wheeler Prize for Mentoring from the Law and Society Association. It is awarded to a member of the Law and Society community who is regarded by his or her peers and students as an outstanding mentor for graduate, professional or undergraduate students who are working on issues of law and society.

Dennis Goldford, professor of Political Science, spoke to PBS NewsHour about the approval of new abortion laws across the country. With President Trump's two appointments to the Supreme Court, Goldford says that Republicans are trying to pass as much legislation as possible while they have the opportunity. [For the full article, visit here](#). He also spoke with *USA Today* to discuss the pros and cons of California's decision to move their primaries forward. [That article is located here](#).

Jennifer Harvey, professor of Religion, was picked up as the book to read this summer for her 2018 book, *Raising White Kids: Bringing Up Children in a Racially Unjust America*. Additional coverage came from many sources, including *FOX2now.com*, *Iowa Public Radio*, *KNPR (Nevada Public Radio)* ABC 17 News, *Fox 14 TV*, and *ATT.com*.

Congratulations to the faculty members who had new additions to their families in May: Benjamin Gardner, Michael Haedicke, and Eric Manley.

Student Spotlights

Hannah Zuber, AS'18 painting graduate, painted the image that would represent the inaugural Iowa Water Festival (held June 23 at the Izaak Walton League). Zuber, 22, says her design was inspired by Drake professor Peter Levi and his students' water research data. Levi, an assistant professor of environmental science and sustainability, has studied ecosystems and their function in streams, rivers and reservoirs. He will serve on the panel discussion at the Iowa Water Festival. For more information: [visit the article here](#).

Another one of our graduates, **Elena Hildebrandt**, was promoted to a finalist for the Fullbright Scholarship. She will be a teaching assistant in Malaysia, making her the 6th Fullbright Scholar this year!

Reading Corner

Here is a great summer read: [The Ice Cream-Makers by Ernest van der Kwast](#). A story about immigration, poetry, and the sensual pleasure of eating gelato. Give it a try!

Upcoming Events

All of these events are on the University Calendar at [calendar.drake.edu](#). You can submit an event to this calendar yourself—please do so to spread the news about all the things we do in A&S!

Drake Observatory Summer Lecture Series: Held at the Drake Observatory, 908 University Avenue at 8pm

- **July 5 Fear Runs The Agenda** Newly invented machinery is tested on the fly. "Tried and True" procedures turn deadly
- **July 12 Conquered and Abandoned** The country keeps its promise but it doesn't move forward.

[Submit News](#)