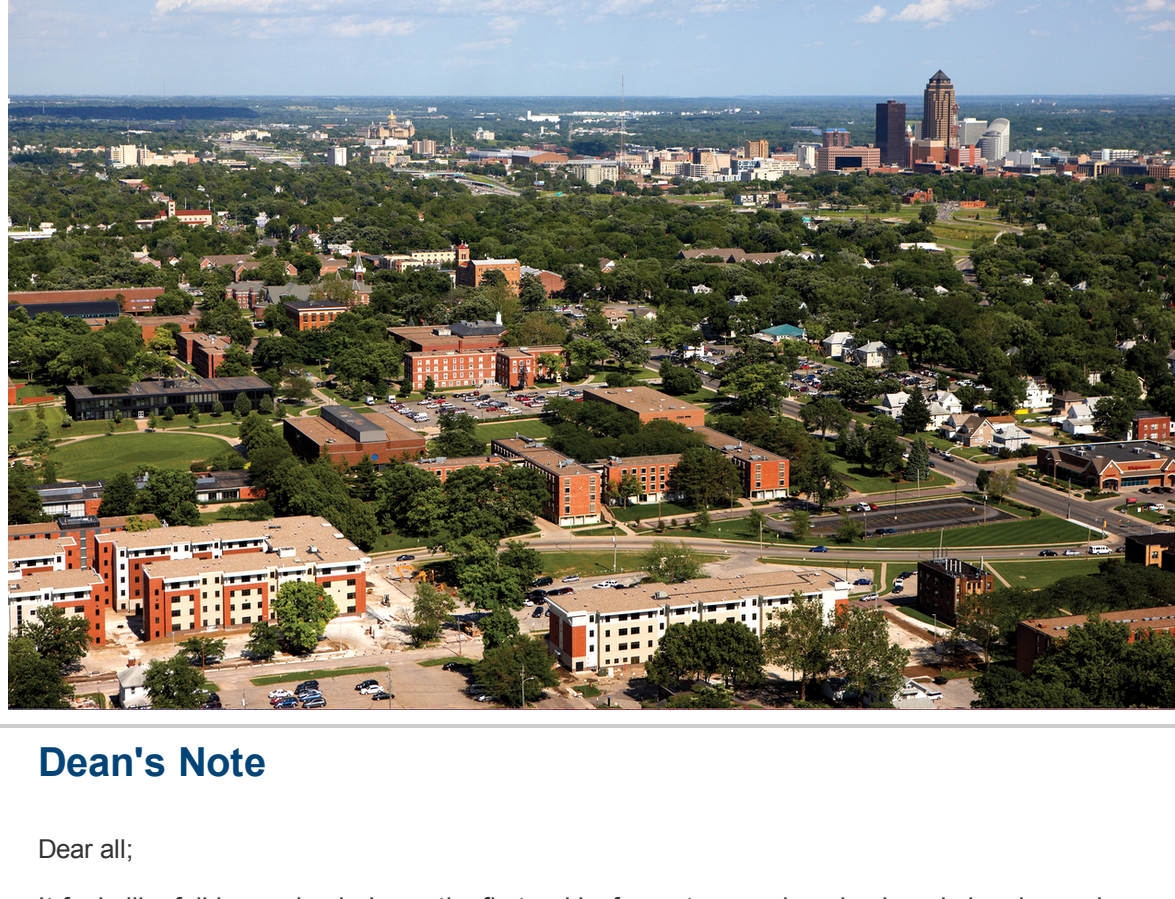




A&S Newsletter

September 23, 2019



Dean's Note

Dear all;

It feels like fall has arrived. I saw the first red leaf on a tree, and our backyard already needs raking. I love this time of the year! We are nearing the midpoint of the semester (October 16), and some of our students are starting to feel more stressed out as midterm exams approach and midterm grades will be entered. As some of the cases bubble up to the Deans' office, I understand that we are seeing only the tip of the iceberg. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there is any support we can provide that will help with student success.

Thank you all for coming to the all-faculty meeting last Friday! We talked a lot about admission and recruitment, it must be the season for that as well. I find the data on how certain admission events do in terms of yielding students incredibly helpful as we plan and revamp this year's recruitment activities. When you meet individually with prospective students, give a mock class or overview session, make a phone call or show them your lab, our chance to get these students to come to Drake increases dramatically. Some of these touchpoints with you had a 70% success rate! Preview Days, campus half-day visits and Politics and STEM Days are coming up in the next few weeks, and let me say thank you already for your involvement with these recruitment activities.

Check out the bios below of two of our new faculty. There are also some fabulous achievements to report on and great events coming up. Please continue to share any accomplishments that involve you, your colleagues or your students with us, so we can brag about it in our newsletter. We got nominations for two of our big awards, but we are still short on Stalnaker nominations. Please submit a letter recognizing one of your distinguished colleagues!

That's all for this Monday. I wish you a good week ahead!

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Stalnaker Lecture 2019

Stalnaker Lecture : October 24 at 6:30pm in Sheslow Auditorium. Lecture is by Professor Tim Knepper. *"What is Religion? Maybe No Thing at All."*

Does the term "religion" have reference to any thing in the "world"? If so, what? Can it be applied cross-culturally and anachronistically? Or does it merely serve to support "Western" realities and powers? This lecture investigates these questions and more.

Timothy D Knepper is Professor of Philosophy at Drake University, where he directs The Comparison Project, a program in comparative philosophy of religion, the study of local-lived religion, and interfaith leadership. His book-length publications include *The Ends of Philosophy of Religion*, *Negating Negation*, *Ineffability*, *Death and Dying*, *A Spectrum of Faith*, and the forthcoming *Religions of Beijing*.

We are hoping to live-stream this event as well as record it this year, so if you are not able to physically join us, you can at least enjoy the lecture!

Advising Corner

Withdrawal with a W : With the semester in full swing, we encourage students to have conversations about their academic performance with their advisors. One of the topics often raised by students around the mid-term is whether they can or should withdraw from a course to refocus their energy and make it easier to balance their remaining coursework.

Between the end of the regular add/drop period and October 28th, students can withdraw from a course with a W. When you discuss the possibility of withdrawing from a course with a W with your advisee, please bring up the following considerations:

Financial : A student registered for 12 credit hours withdrawing from a course, is still attempting 12 credit hours, so remains a full-time student, registered and billed for 12 credit hours. Dropping with a W does not take a full-time student to part-time standing. The transcript will reflect that 12 hours were attempted for a given term and the GPA calculated based on the grades earned in courses for which the student remained enrolled. Withdrawing from too many courses can impact ability to qualify for financial aid. For more on satisfactory academic process, see here.

Academic: A student who withdraws from a course does not earn credit for the course and has a W posted to his/her transcript for that course. While the W doesn't impact a Drake GPA, graduate schools may treat the W the same as an F and refigure the cumulative GPA. If the course in which a student earned a W is retaken, both the new grade and the W will appear on the transcript.

Athletic: Withdrawing from a course may have implications for the student's athletic eligibility. Per NCAA standards, at certain points in his/her academic career a student athlete needs to have 40, 60 and 80% of his/her degree completed. Please encourage your student athlete advisee to consult with the Athletics before withdrawing from a course.

After October 28th, students may only withdraw from a class due to extenuating circumstances (i.e. for documented medical or emergency reasons).

Advisor Workshop: Our next advisor workshop will focus on preparation for the Spring registration. This session will offer concrete strategies for how to help students navigate myDusis (resulting in your receiving fewer emails from students during registration). We will meet at 3 p.m. on October 10th, location tbd. Please email [Natalie Bayer](mailto:Natalie.Bayer@drake.edu) if you are interested in joining this event.

Mid-Term Grades: will be due by 10 a.m. on Monday, October 21st.

Spring 2020 Schedule: Please double-check your Spring 2020 schedule with your schedule builders before the schedule becomes live on October 1st.

Deadline for New Courses/Course Changes for Spring 2020

[New Course Proposals](#) or [Course Changes](#)

Any course should be submitted, including new courses (not offered under a Special Topics course) should be submitted using the two forms on the A&S Form page. New courses and course changes for Spring 2020 should be submitted prior to **October 1st** to allow for approval by Curriculum Committee and A&S Council before registration begins. Once registration begins, changes courses can cause complications with a student's schedule (even causing a course to have to be removed from their schedule).



New Faculty Introductions: Dian Nostikasari

Dian Nostikasari earned her B.A. in Architecture from the University of Indonesia. Prior to graduate school, she practiced architecture and interior design in a variety of residential and commercial projects. Nostikasari earned her Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Public Policy from the University of Texas at Arlington where she pursued her interest to gain deeper understanding of how the built environment and public policy affect people's lived experiences. Prior to joining Drake University, she was a senior research fellow at Rice University's Kinder Institute for Urban Research where she focuses on issues of urban development, transportation and placemaking.



New Faculty Introductions: Leah Huizar

Leah Huizar is a Mexican-American writer and poet originally from Southern California. She received her MFA from Penn State and has previously taught at Virginia Commonwealth University and UNC-Charlotte. Her creative work centers on Latinx cultural history and experience in the West Coast. It examines memory and the force of myth-making in shaping shared and personal identities. In her teaching, Leah aims for students to write meaningfully about the interests they find urgent and important to their lives. Likewise, her approach to creative writing is one in which students might articulate and access their personal and social power, especially as a force for amplifying underrepresented voices. Leah has published poems in literary journals such as *Crab Orchard Review*, *Nimrod International Journal*, and *The Acentos Review*. Her first book of poems, *Inland Empire*, will be published in December by Noemi Press.

Regalia Program

The Provost's Office is pleased to support tenure-track faculty in the purchase of academic regalia again this year. Specifically, \$350 will be placed on account for current full-time tenure-track and consecutive term faculty who have been at Drake six or fewer years (up through 2019-20) to purchase academic regalia (robe, hood, and tam) appropriate to discipline and institution.

If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, please reply to [Drinda Williams's](mailto:Drinda.Williams@drake.edu) email by Friday, October 18.

Spotlights

Tim Knepper, professor of Philosophy/Religion, recently had his essay-volume [Death and Dying: An Exercise in Comparative Philosophy of Religion](#) published by Springer Nature. These essays came from The Comparison Project's 2015-2017 lecture series and focus on the medicalization of death and its effects on traditional theologies of death and rituals of dying in cross-cultural perspective.

James Romain, professor of music, was presented a Special Recognition Award from the Greater Des Moines Community Jazz for outstanding instrumental performance and educational contributions to the Metro jazz community. The recognition comes primarily through his weekly performances with the Des Moines Big Band, the Turner Center Jazz Orchestra, and his work as a jazz clinician, guest performer, and adjudicator at jazz festivals and schools throughout the metro and Iowa.

Reading Corner

We recommend reading this book by Lisa M. Nunn entitled "[33 Simple Strategies for Faculty](#)," which focuses on practical solutions for faculty to help students transition from high school to university life without feeling overwhelmed by making extra time in their schedules.

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!

- September 24: "Women's Rights are Human Rights" Discussion with Dr. Jill Allen, professor of psychology, 4pm, Anderson Gallery
- September 27: "Imagined Solutions," lecture at Observatory Public Night, 8pm, Drake Municipal Observatory, Waveland Golf Course
- September 29: "Humanizing the Playing and Teaching of J.S. Bach," lecture by Robert Weirich, piano, 2pm, Harmon Fine Arts Center 204
- September 30: Keys to Excellence performance by Robert Weirich, piano
- October 3: "Women's Rights are Human Rights," Discussion with Dr. Maura Lyons, professor of Art & Design, 4pm, Anderson Gallery
- October 3-6 (various times): "Electra," theatre production directed by John Graham, Coleman Studio Theatre, [purchase tickets here](#).
- October 4: "Getting it Wrong," lecture at Observatory Public Night, 8pm, Drake Municipal Observatory, Waveland Golf Course.
- October 7: "Women's Rights are Human Rights" Discussion with Dr. Maryann Huey, professor of mathematics, 4pm, Anderson Gallery

A&S Important Dates

All of these dates are located [here](#).

- October 1
 - P&T Candidate 2019 recommendations due to the Dean
 - Intent to apply for promotion to professor in Fall 2020 due to Dean/Chair
 - Friends of Drake Arts grant applications due (Fine Arts Faculty only)

- October 14-15: Fall Break
- October 16: Midpoint of the semester
- October 21: Midterm Grades due by 10 a.m.
- October 28: Last day to drop a class without extenuating circumstances

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