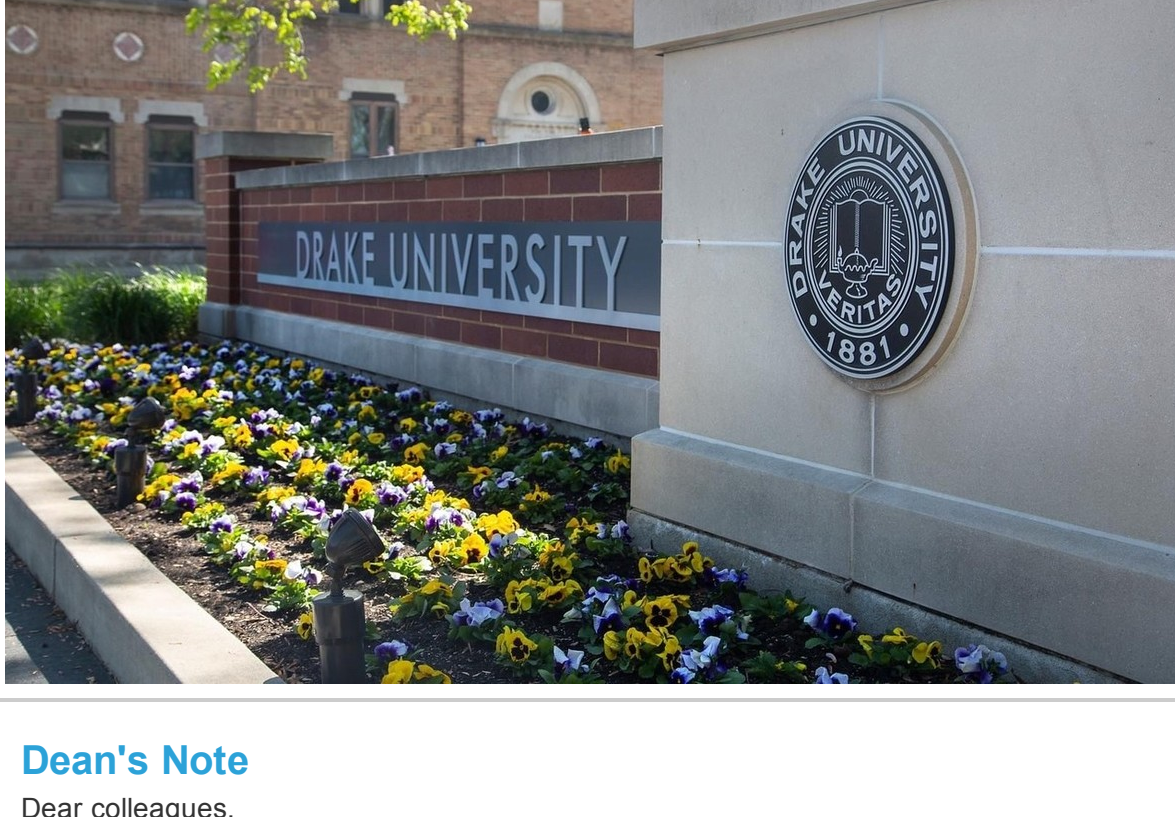


A&S Newsletter

March 21, 2023



Dean's Note

Dear colleagues,

I hope you had a good spring break and feel recharged for the second half of the semester. My family went on a road trip to the South. We spent a few days on Dauphin Island on the Alabama shores (beautiful!) and then made our way back via New Orleans, Montgomery, and Memphis. We hit a few museums—powerful history to say the least! Seeing the exhibits on the legacy of enslavement or stepping into the hotel room where Martin Luther King stayed just before he was shot was a transformative experience for all of us—teenage daughters, college kid, and history profs alike! We ended the week watching Drake's men and women's basketball teams dance in March Madness—so proud to be a Bulldog!

The second half of the semester will go by fast. Mid-term grades are due this Wednesday at 10am. Thank you for adhering to the deadline as this is vital information to help students succeed. The fall class schedule is live now. Please meet with your advisees before registration starts at the end of the month. As students look ahead to spring 2024, please remind them that J-Term is part of the spring semester for billing and financial aid purposes—credit hours taken in J-Term 2024 will count toward the maximum of 18 credit hours during the spring semester. Registration for J-Term will take place in October at the same time as spring semester registration. There is one exception: travel seminar applications are live now and registration has opened in Terradotta. Encourage your students to check out those travel seminars!

Recruitment of our fall class has entered the final stretch. Several more admitted student days will bring prospective students and their families to campus over the next six weeks or so. We shine on those days, thanks to your mock classes, academic overviews, and 1:1 meetings. Our numbers are where we want them to be at this point of the cycle, but we have a long way to go to reach 400 EFR in the Arts & Sciences. We also want to be intentional about reaching out to those students who have already deposited tuition. We learned the hard way last year that some of those students might not show up in our classes come fall. We are reaching out to these students in various forms, but nothing will be as impactful as a message from a faculty member in their future major program! Thank you for the extra effort!

A couple save-the-dates for your calendar: our next all-faculty and staff meeting will be on Friday, April 14, from 2-4pm. Honors convocation will take place this year on Thursday, April 20, 6:30pm. Lots to celebrate in the Arts & Sciences!

Thank you for your great commitment, and for your fantastic work.

Gesine

Dean's Office Hours

Dean Gerhard will hold open office hours on Tuesday, March 28, from 3-4pm in the Library Café and on [Zoom](#). Just stop by --- no appointment needed.

Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Jerry Honts was selected as the inaugural **Marshall and Judith Flapan Professor of Biology** (pending BOT approval in April)! This new endowed professorship was a gift made by Marshall Flapan in honor of his late wife. Both were proud A&S alumni and have given back generously to Drake over the years. The establishment of the endowed professorship is a great recognition of the excellence of our Biology faculty and the powerful impact of their teaching and research.

Student Spotlight

The Drake English department is pleased to announce a sweep of prize-winning writing garnered by students **Baylie Bowers-Whaley**, **Sophia Best**, and **Meghan Newman**. The Iowa Chapbook Prize series selects manuscripts of innovative writing that, among other attributes, are "adventurous in form and content" and "precise in use of language." In recognition of their talents, each of these selected writers will see their winning manuscript edited and published for distribution.

Baylie Bowers-Whaley, a senior writing major, has won the Iowa Chapbook Prize in the nonfiction category for her ten-essay flash nonfiction manuscript. In these essays, Bowers-Whaley recalls personal memories, focusing on familial tensions and the complex emotions that accompany love and grief. Her collection of essays, "Remembering You, Remembering Me," is an honest exploration of one's past with feelings of bittersweet longing.

Sophia Best, a junior writing major, has won the Iowa Chapbook Prize for their poetry manuscript, "Pink Bathwater." In their chapbook of poems, Best meditates on the vulnerabilities of connection and the challenges of navigating relationships with family, partners, and even one's sense of self.

Meghan Newman, a senior writing major, has won the Iowa Chapbook in prose for *People, Places, and Other Proper Nouns*, a nonfiction collection about growing up and changing as a person.

A&S Honors Convocation

Join us and celebrate your students' accomplishments! The annual A&S Honors Convocation will take place on April 20th at 6pm in Sheslow Auditorium, followed by a reception in Levitt Hall. You can also watch the livestream of the event using [this link](#).

DUCURS 2023

The 20th annual *Drake University Conference on Undergraduate Research in the Sciences* (DUCURS), hosted by the Drake Undergraduate Science Collaborative Institute ([DUSCI](#)), is scheduled for April 20, 2023.

The conference will feature oral presentations and poster presentations on current research projects by students and their faculty. Poster presentations will take place in the Olmsted conference rooms across from Parents Hall, and oral presentations will take place in Parents Hall South. Following the presentations, awards will be given to the top presenters. Find more information [here](#).

Physics & Astronomy Special Seminar

The department of Physics and Astronomy would like to invite you to their special seminar *Watching Electrons Move* with Dr. Kathryn R. Hamilton from the University of Colorado, Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 4:30pm in Harvey Ingham 112.

Drake Opera Theatre

Join us for the upcoming production of *Hansel and Gretel* on April 15th at 7:30pm and April 16th at 2:00pm in the Performing Arts Hall. Check out the Drake Opera Theatre newsletter [here](#) for more information.

Spring 2023 Humanities Colloquium Series

The Center for the Humanities invites you to the next Humanities Colloquium on Friday, March 24, at 1-2:30pm, featuring **Dr. Carol Spaulding-Kruse** in conversation with **Dr. Dian Nostikasari**. The conversation is entitled Promenade: An essay-in-progress on climate crisis, migration, and identity. In her creative non-fiction essay, Carol combines personal and cultural testimony about her home state of California, her chosen state of Iowa, and the shifting definitions and allegiances affected by climate crisis. Refreshments will be served.

Advising Corner

Midterm Grade Entry: Midterm grades are due before 10 a.m. on Wed, Mar 22. The entry of midterm grades helps students to make informed decisions on whether or not to remain in a spring course(s). If working with advisees enrolled in 12 credits, please note that dropping a course(s) with a W will not take a student to part-time standing. Students who wish to drop a course with a W have through 4:30 p.m. on Wed, Mar 29 to take action by submitting the [add/drop form](#) to ask.as@drake.edu.

As you have conversations with midterms during registration appointments, please consider discussing low midterm grades as well. Research has clearly demonstrated that adviser feedback regarding academic performance is a critical piece of student retention and improved academic performance. A few reminders about the impact of a W, **most notable being that if a student is enrolled in 12 credits, dropping a course with a W, will not take him/her/their to part-time standing.**

Financial: A student registered for 12 credit hours withdrawing from a course, is still attempting credit for 12 credit hours, so remains a full-time student, registered and billed for 12 credit hours. The transcript will reflect that 12 hours were attempted for a given term. Withdrawing from too many courses can impact ability to qualify for financial aid, otherwise known as [Satisfactory Academic Progress](#).

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 your athletic eligibility. Per NCAA requirements, all student-athletes need to remain actively enrolled in a minimum of 12 credits each semester and meet continuing degree progress benchmarks.

Student athletes should consult with student-athlete compliance staff before withdrawing from a course.

International students should consult with the Center for Global Engagement staff before withdrawing from a course.

Students receiving Veteran's Administration (V.A.) benefits should consult V.A. compliance staff before withdrawing from a course.

Registration for Summer and Fall 2023: Registration for the above terms begins on Monday, Apr 10. A great reference page for all-things registration, including the registration time tables, listing of restricted courses and Knowledge Base articles on how-to-register is [Registration Information | Drake University](#).

Forecasting J-term 2024 and the Spring 2024 Semester as One Term: Beginning in 2024, J-term and spring 2024 will be one term; students will be allowed to register for a maximum of 18 credits over j-term and the spring semester. Those taking more than 18 credit hours will incur the overload fee. See [J-term 2024 Student Finance FAQ | Drake University](#) for more information. Students seeking more than 18 credits can request to waive the overload fee. *Note the overload fee can only be waived if a scholarship requirement tied to participation in an ensemble, production or practicum exists, or if the student enrolls in credits to serve as an Honors Practicum Leader or Peer Learning Assistant or is a Crew Scholars program or ROTC participant.*

Reading Corner

In case you missed it—check out this helpful article in the Chronicle: [Will Mandated Mental-Health Breaks Do More Harm Than Good?](#)

A&S Important Dates

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

March 22: Midterm grades due by 10am

March 24: Humanities Colloquium Series, Levitt Hall 1:00-2:30pm

March 26: Wind Symphony, Sheslow Auditorium 7:30pm

March 29: Last day to drop a class without extenuating circumstances

March 30: Drake Theatre Arts presents: *The Bacchae*, Performing Arts Hall 7:30pm

March 30: Drake Choirs, Sheslow Auditorium 7:30pm

April 2: Drake Jazz Ensemble One, Patty and Fred Turner Jazz Center 5pm

April 3: Student Award form due to the Dean's Office

April 10: Summer and Fall 2023 registration opens

April 14: Drake Jazz Ensemble Two, Patty and Fred Turner Jazz Center 7:30pm

April 15, 7:30pm and April 16, 2pm: Drake Opera Theatre presents *Hansel and Gretel*, Performing Arts Hall

April 20: A&S Honor's Convocation, Sheslow Auditorium at 6pm followed up by a reception in Levitt Hall

April 20: DUCURS 2023, Upper Olmsted Center

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