

A&S Newsletter

October 19, 2022



Dean's Note

Dear colleagues,

I hope Fall Break was a welcome reprieve for you right when we needed it! It helped slow things down after a busy few weeks, and before the onset of the second half of the semester. Midpoint of the semester is today, October 19! Thank you for joining us for the Stalnaker lecture last week. We had a good turnout in Sheslow, and additional viewers on livestream who were able to listen to Michael's engaging lecture. The week ended with an amazing performance by Eric Ferring, a Drake alumnus and tenor at the Metropolitan Opera, who came back to Drake as part of the prestigious Jordan Concert Series.

Lots of going on this week as well. The Board of Trustees will meet this week to approve the FY23 budget, and to celebrate major gifts to the capital campaign. The first endowed professorship of the campaign is our Mark J. Jarrett Professorship in Physics—so proud that we are setting the trend in the Arts & Sciences!! We'll also have the Campus Preview days with academic overviews and fairs for prospective students on Thursday and Friday. Attendance at the admission events has been behind what we saw last year. No reason to worry yet as we are early in the recruitment cycle, but it certainly makes your individual meetings with students even more important, as those are what convinces students to come to Drake. We yield more than 70% from these faculty meetings with prospective students and their families. Thank you for your time and extra effort!

Faculty development grant applications are due on October 28. Please submit your proposal so that the college can support your work in teaching, research and artistic endeavors! We have added new funding categories (grant writing and development of new online courses)—check out the information on our [website](#) and apply by Friday next week! Registration for spring semester is around the corner. Thank you for meeting with your advisees to help them navigate their academic plan. It's a stressful time of the semester for everybody, students included.

I have greatly appreciated talking with all of you during my department visits. I heard your concerns and challenges. These conversations with you all have shaped my priorities for this year, and I will share them with you after my last department meeting. I appreciate your frankness and honesty, your collaborative spirit and your amazing commitment. It comes through in everything you do and say!

Have a great rest week!
Gesine

Dean's Office Hours

Gesine will hold open office hours on Thursday, October 20, from 4:30-5:30pm in the Library Café and on [Zoom](#). Just stop by --- no appointment needed.

Marcella Mulhollem, Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology

Marcella received her B.A. in Psychology from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and her graduate degree from the University of Akron - Kent State dual program, focusing on Criminology and Gender. The professors and individual attention available at UNCA were foundational to her success as a student, and an inspiration to continue her education. The unique partnering of the Akron-Kent program provided access to a wide variety of sociological topics and research. Her research interests include crime, violence, gender, education, and health. She applies feminist theory to understand how social stratification and inequality influence behaviors and outcomes.

Fun Fact: Marcella is an avid nature adventurer and has a secret wish to be on the TV show, *Alone*.

Nikki Orth, Visiting Assistant Professor of Rhetoric

Nikki attended the College of St. Benedict in central Minnesota for her undergraduate degree. In 2015, she moved to Pennsylvania to begin her MA and Ph.D. studies at Penn State University in the Department of Communication Arts & Sciences with a minor in African American & Diaspora Studies. Her research interests include race, public memory, and social movements. As an interdisciplinary scholar of rhetoric, Nikki specializes in blending critical textual and visual analysis, rhetorical field methods, and archival research to analyze sites and discourses of public memory.

Fun fact: The first academic conference Nikki ever attended was in her second year as an undergraduate at the "Women as Global Leaders" conference in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

2022 Stalnaker Lecture

Dr. Michael J. Renner after giving the 2022 Stalnaker Lecture in Sheslow auditorium on October 13. Check out the [YouTube Video](#) if you missed the event!



Congratulations to **Dr. Carol Spaulding-Kruse** for being selected as the **2023 Stalnaker Lecturer!**

The Stalnaker Lecture Award is presented to a distinguished faculty member who is invited to present a lecture to the university community on a topic in their discipline.



The **Arts & Sciences Distinguished Engagement Award** recognizes the outstanding contributions of Drake faculty and staff to the college community. The winner demonstrates personal commitment to Drake-related volunteerism and campus engagement, an outstanding record of leadership or substantial involvement in community projects, services and activities, and professional and personal values and behavior that typify the integration of citizenship and professional responsibility.

Congratulations to the 2022 - 2023 A&S Distinguished Engagement Award winner **Dr. David Courard-Hauri!**



The **Centennial Scholar Award** is 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.

One of the nomination letters states that, "Dr. Rosburg is arguably the state's most authoritative scientist when it comes to plant identification and plant ecology, with a focus on prairie ecosystems." Congratulations to **Dr. Thomas Rosburg**, the 2021-2022 Centennial Scholar!



Advising Corner

Please enter midterm grades for all first year students and any returning student with a C or less. Grades are due by 10 a.m. on Monday, Oct 24, with the deadline to drop with a W on Wednesday, Oct 26 (note the short turnaround).

As you are contacting your advisees to schedule a pre-registration meeting, take a note of *5 Tips To Get Students To Respond To Outreach!*

- 1) Use "catchy" email headlines to help students want to click on the email.
- 2) Personalize as much as possible.
- 3) Get creative with what "meetings" look like.
- 4) Make sure emails aren't too long and have immediate action items.
- 5) Think about the timing you send your emails.

For more detailed information on these tips and other resources on student engagement, please check out the Blackboard organization "A&S Academic Advising." It contains information and resources necessary to foster successful advising, from general graduation requirements to student support resources and practical tips on how to help your advisees prepare for an effective advising meeting.

Faculty Development Grants

The College of Arts & Sciences would like to support your teaching and research! A&S Faculty Development Grant applications are due Friday, October 28. Two new funding categories (support for grant writing and developing an online course) and the application form are available on our college [website](#).

Reading Corner

Check out these [interesting findings](#) from a study on office hours: Do your students know what office hours are for?

A&S Important Dates

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

- October 19: Midpoint of the semester
- October 20: Drake Orchestra conducted by Hector Aguero
- October 20: Academic Overviews for prospective students, 10am and 2:30pm
- October 21: Academic Overviews for prospective students 9-11am; Academic Fair 12pm
- October 24: Midterm grades due by 10am
- October 26: Last day to drop a class without extenuating circumstances
- October 27: Drake Theatre Arts Presents :Carrie, The Musical, Coleman Studio Theatre 7:30pm
- October 28: Faculty Development Grant applications due to the Dean's Office
- October 31: Registration begins for Spring 2023
- November 1: Sabbatical applications to the Dean
Friends of Drake Arts Grant applications are due

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