

School of Education

Today is May 1, 2015

Course Evaluations

All students in SOE classes will be getting individual emails from Molly today (if the class hasn't ended already, in which case this has already happened) with their own link to a course evaluation for the SOE courses in which they are enrolled. Instructors are encouraged to provide time in class next week for students to complete these evaluations. Students will have to retrieve the appropriate link (it's only good for that particular student in that particular section; students taking multiple classes will have multiple links) from their Drake email account. It is possible that some students will have completed the course evaluation prior to class. If you provide time before the end of class (at the beginning or middle) then you can be sure that they have enough time to give thorough and thoughtful feedback. Instructors should leave the room while students are completing the evaluation so that students do not feel pressured.

Final exams

Classes must meet at their assigned final meeting times. If classes are scheduled at night, then the scheduled time is that night. Other assigned times are available on the student records website. <http://www.drake.edu/studentrecords/finalevaluationschedule/>

Celebrations

Media - 9!

1. House Republicans propose higher education cuts

Brianne Pfannenstiel,
bpfannenst@dmreg.com 9:36 p.m. CDT April 27, 2015

House Republicans advanced a spending bill Monday that cuts higher education and the Department of Education by \$8.6 million — potentially resulting in tuition increases at state Regents schools, cuts to grant programs and \$12.9 million in funding shifted from the University of Iowa to other universities.

2. 4.28.2015 = Quad City Times **Lawmakers settle into budget work** By [Rod Boshart, Times Bureau](#)

DES MOINES — State lawmakers began the trench work Monday of assembling competing state budget plans that they hope to merge into a spending plan they can approve, send to the governor and adjourn their 2015 session.

The House Appropriations Committee voted 14-11 to approve a higher education funding measure that would commit \$977.6 million in general fund appropriations to Iowa's regent universities and special schools, community colleges, workforce training efforts, private college tuition grants and other programs. The overall funding level would be \$8.5 million below current levels.

3. **Teachers union protests school funding impasse with 'pink slips' in office windows**

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/27/isea-school-funding-impasse-protest/26461103/>

4. **School superintendent praises new money for training but says schools also need basic funding**

By CATHERINE LUCEY Associated Press
April 27, 2015 - 1:56 pm EDT

Dr. Thomas Buckmiller received tenure and promotion!!
Diane and Brent Slay have just committed to \$25,000 for the School of Education!!!

For May graduates- advisors should sign paperwork before leaving for the summer 7/2/15 deadline

Mark your calendars: If a graduate student is going to graduate in May, 2015, then everything must be completed and submitted to Debbie Dodge by Thursday, July 2. That may seem like a long way off now, but if there is one remaining outstanding grade or the advisor has not signed off on the folder until July 3, the student will be an August graduate.

AOIs available this summer

Arts and Sciences have two sections of US History available this summer for those that need it. Also, there are a number of other AOIs offered- nature photography (art), environmental communication (engaged citizen), etc. If students are needing to find courses, A&S definitely has options.

Tech Tip

<http://www.pdfescape.com/> that allows you to create "fillable" PDF forms for free. Why does it matter? Because now you can make handouts for students editable electronically. Normally there would be a fee for this.

PLEASANT HILL, Iowa — The superintendent of a suburban Des Moines school district said Monday that new dollars for teacher leadership training benefit schools, but that other school funding is still needed for basic expenses such as books.

Southeast Polk Community School District Superintendent Craig Menozzi spoke Monday at a press conference with Gov. Terry Branstad. The event highlighted the progress since the governor's plan to boost funding for teacher training was approved two years ago. Branstad says the program will "transform education all across Iowa."

5. Monday, April 27, 2015 8:12 AM

Data shows mixed bag for Iowa student performance Erin Murphy Times Bureau

DES MOINES — While state lawmakers remain deadlocked in a weeks-long donnybrook over how much to spend on K-12 public education, the most basic metrics show a mixed bag when Iowa's student results and education resources over the past 15 years are compared to the national average.

ACT scores, graduation rates, per-pupil state spending and teacher salaries in Iowa have remained steady over the past decade-and-a-half, data show. Some are above the national average, others below.

But one state education leader says the students represented in those measurements benefited from years of steady state funding while they were young, and the effect of recent funding disputes will not be felt until years down the road when today's younger students graduate.

Data covering the past 15 years shows:

- Iowa students' ACT scores have remained mostly flat. In fact, their average score of 22.0 and relation to the national average — 104.8 percent — were the same in 2014 as in 2000.
- Iowa high school students graduated at a consistent rate between 2004 and 2013, according to U.S. Department of Education data. In 2004, 89.8 percent of Iowa students graduated from high school; in 2013, 89.7 percent graduated.
- Iowa teacher salaries remain below the national average, but over the past 15 years have closed the gap. In 2000, Iowa's annual teacher salary was 85.3 percent of the national average; in 2014, the average Iowa teacher salary of \$52,032 was 91.8 percent of

the national average, according to data from the National Education Association.

- The number of students per teacher — educators say smaller class sizes are critical to student performance — has increased slightly since 2003, from 13.8 per teacher in 2003 to 14.3 in 2013, according to the National Education Association.

- As for that big number state legislators are endlessly debating: Iowa's per-pupil spending compared to the national average has fallen since 2000, but only slightly, according to U.S. Census data. In 2000, the state of Iowa's K-12 per-pupil spending was 95.8 percent of the national average. In 2012, the last year for which Census data is available, Iowa's per-pupil spending was 94.6 percent of the national average.

6. 4.29.15 – Cedar Rapids Gazette **Districts could see low funding bump**; Democrats:

Schools may face 1,000 fewer staff members
By Andrew Phillips, The Gazette

Iowa schools could have more than 1,000 fewer teachers and other staff members next year amid uncertain funding from the state Legislature, House Democrats said Tuesday. Legislators this spring have been debating how much to increase state supplemental aid, a major funding category for kindergarten-through-grade-12 schools, for 2015-16.

7. DES MOINES REGISTER: OUR OPINION:
House leaders should allow vote on bullying bill

After two years of failure, Iowa's Legislature is oh so close this year to substantive strengthening of anti-bullying law in the state. Whether the bill gets a vote in the House - a vote State Rep. Ron Jorgensen, R-Sioux City, told us he believes will result in passage by a comfortable margin - rests with Speaker Kraig Paulsen, R-Hiawatha, and Majority Leader Linda Upmeyer, R-Garner.

Again today we urge them to stand aside and give their chamber the opportunity to vote, and we urge House members to support the legislation.

We back this bill, largely because we believe it will address the pervasive problem of cyberbullying - tormenting, threatening, harassing or embarrassing someone using the Internet or other technologies, like cell phones - in effective fashion. Among its provisions, the bill would take the important, valuable step of

permitting a school to investigate an alleged incident of bullying that occurs away from school property.

8. Iowa Senate OKs money for college tuition freeze

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2015/04/29/iowa-senate-spending-bills/26604927/>

William Petroski, bpetrosk@dmreg.com 6:17 p.m. CDT April 29, 2015

9. 4.30.2015 – Radio Iowa

Democrats: 1,130 Iowa teachers have gotten pink slips

By [O. Kay Henderson](#)

Many Democrats in the Iowa legislature are wearing pink today, as a show of support for hundreds of Iowa teachers who've gotten "pink slips" due to uncertainty about state support of public schools. Representative Cindy Winckler, a Democrat from Davenport, is a former classroom teacher. "Waiting this long to make that decision hurts the school districts, but it hurts Iowa," Winckler said during a statehouse news conference.

By law, the decision should have been made almost 15 months ago and school administrators were faced to make budget decisions this month for the school year that begins this fall. Senate Democratic Leader Mike Gronstal of Council Bluffs says as of today (Thursday), Iowa school administrators report sending out 1130 "pink slip" layoff notices to teachers.

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