

# School of Education

Today is the ides of May - the end of the spring semester, almost summer. Take a deep breath. The SOE Newsletter will come out in the summer on a semi-regular basis. Still send news/info.

Today is May 15, 2015

## Admission Numbers

We are up to 80 new graduate student admissions since April 1, in a variety of areas including the TEPD cohorts in Ankeny and Waukee, MAT, EDL, and endorsement-only students, especially the ELL endorsement. The new-to-Drake entering first year undergraduate SOE class is holding steady compared to the last couple of years at 25 plus and as-of-yet-unaccounted group of undergraduate transfer students. Generally the SOE undergraduate numbers more than double in the first semester as students sort themselves out and find majors that are a good fit for them.

## All Staff Council

## From the Dean's Desk

Remember that there is still time for faculty AND staff to attend the Learning Symposium in August. Staff will not have to count attendance as vacation. Five School of Education faculty members are among the presenters and once again, our interest and loyalty to the University shows! I will be away next week and not telling my daughters, their dogs or cats where we are going. Thanks to those of you whose major assignments end this weekend and welcome to the summer super stars who keep things moving along!

Jan

Janet McMahon, Ph.D

Dean, Drake University School of Education

## Ken Kass

Ken Kass has accepted a position at Cal State-Fullerton. DTS is planning an event to say goodbye to him on June 1. Details forthcoming.

## Out of office messages

Please make it clear in an out of office message when you are away for vacation and when/how you will respond to emails. The Associate Dean's away message from May 23-June 4 will read: "I am on vacation but will respond to all emails with VERY IMPORTANT in the subject line."

## Media - 4

1. **Let's hear it for early childhood education (or not)**  
<http://fortune.com/2015/05/07/choosing-a-college-major-read-this-first/>

Dear Kerwin,  
I am happy to inform you that you have been elected to represent your colleagues on the Communication Committee of All Staff Council (ASC). Your service on the committee officially begins June 1, 2015 term and expires on May 31, 2018. Either your committee chair/chair or co-chair of the ASC (Chrystal Stanley or Renee Sedlecek) will be in touch soon regarding upcoming ASC activities. Congratulations!  
Sincerely,  
Lorissa Lieurance  
Director of Residence Life & Chair of the ASC Governance Committee,  
Drake University

2. Capitol Digest: May 11, 2015

**PRESCHOOL ACCESS HIGH, FUNDING LOW:** Iowa's state-funded pre-kindergarten program ranks eighth among the 50 states in accessibility but 32nd in spending per child, according to a Rutgers University report. The annual report by Rutgers' nonpartisan National Institute for Early Education Research says state funding for pre-K programs, when adjusted for inflation, increased nationwide by nearly \$120 million in 2013-2014. In Iowa, the study noted pre-K funding has been decreased twice in the past 5 years, although it did receive an 18 percent bump in 2013-2014. More than 26,000 students participated in pre-K programs in Iowa in 2014, and the state spent \$2,852 per student on the program, according to the study.

3. **12 key issues still alive in Iowa Legislature**

William Petroski and Brianne Pfannenstiel 4:55 p.m. CDT May 9, 2015

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/politics/2015/05/09/iowa-legislature-key-issues/27055291/>

4. **Iowa Senate OKs \$6 billion, two-year state spending bill**

William Petroski [bpetrosk@dmreg.com](mailto:bpetrosk@dmreg.com) 4:14 p.m. CDT May 14, 2015

The Iowa Senate on Thursday approved a two-year state appropriations bill worth more than \$6 billion that includes money for a 2.62 percent increase in kindergarten-through-12th grade school funding for next year and a 4 percent increase the following year.

The so-called "standings appropriations bill," which passed on a 26-21 vote, is traditionally one of the last bills passed prior to adjournment and provides money for various state government programs. Democrats were all in favor and Republicans were opposed.

Senate File 510 also includes a host of policy measures, including language requiring school training to investigate incidents of bullying or harassment, and new rules on mammogram information sent to medical patients. In addition, the measure establishes a state employee retirement incentive program for eligible employees of the state's executive branch and it makes the program optional for the legislative and judicial branches, and Board of Regents' institutions.

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