

**Today is December 16,  
2016**

**Last newsletter of the year!  
Next expected newsletter:  
January 20 or 27 depending  
on critical news level**

## Graduation

Tomorrow, December 17 is Fall graduation. Faculty should be at the Bell Center with bells on by 9:30 am and done by 11:30 am.

## Grades

Grades are due Wednesday, December 21 before 10 am. Please send an email to [catherine.gillespie@drake.edu](mailto:catherine.gillespie@drake.edu) if you plan to be a "late grade enterer" to avoid harassment by the Associate Dean.

## Holidays

Drake will be closed December 23-January 2. Have a happy, safe, relaxing, and refreshing break. Here's a fun challenge: Who can go all day every day for each one of the eleven days of break without checking Drake email? See if you can do it. You really do deserve a break. You will be a better employee in January and beyond if you get a true break at the end of December. So

## Message from the Dean

Sending you greetings of the season. As we see the daily progress on the Collier-Scripps Building, I can change my tagline from "Momentum is Building" to..."Transformation: Preparing you here for there." In our school, we all do our best to serve students ...all ages and stages! For that, and so much more, I extend my thanks.  
Janet McMahon, Ph.D  
Dean, Drake University School of Education

## Engaged Citizen Experience

The Engaged Citizen Experience theme for the Spring 2017 semester is Demographic Opportunities and Challenges: International and Domestic. The planning committee believes this is a particularly appropriate topic given current political and social turmoil, both on Drake's campus and in the wider polity. Our yearly conference is scheduled for Friday, February 24 from noon until 4:30. The opening keynote address will be given by Justin Gest, author of: *Apart: Alienated and Engaged Muslims in the West*, and *The New Minority: White Working Class Politics in an Age of Immigration and Inequality*. This address will be followed by a session of 4 breakout sessions. <http://www.drake.edu/dc/engagedcitizenexperience/>

## Partnership

### **Girl Scouts + Hoover + Drake = Unstoppable STEM**

Wednesday, November 30th, 2016

On October 28, an 11-person girls-only Hyperstream Team, coordinated through Girl Scouts, visited Drake University for a taste of college life.

A recipient of a 2016-17 Scale-Up Award, the Girl Scouts partner with a Drake LEAD 100 class that leads the Hoover HyperStream Club. Ngan Hoang, Assistant Director of Girl Programming, provides support and oversees the overall initiative. The Drake students also planned and coordinated the campus visit.

Hoang is proud of the girls and their hard work. "They gain confidence in their abilities to positively use technology," said

take the time to rest, relax, and rejuvenate. See you next year!

## Student Teachers

Forty-six teacher education candidates celebrated the completion of a successful student teaching semester on Tuesday, December 13th at Levitt Hall. Joining them in celebrating were mentor teachers, supervisors, Dean Janet McMahon, Dr. Catherine Gillespie, Amy Holderied-Smith, and Michelle Krogulski. The music education student teachers provided festive carols, Dean McMahon shared "Information and Inspiration" for the Drake SOE graduates, and Sarah Jarnagin (BSE Secondary Education) and Troy Ellerbroek (MST) each highlighted their student teaching semester and excitement about entering the teaching profession. Everyone enjoyed friendly conversations and refreshments to round out the event. Best wishes to all SOE Teacher Candidates!

Hoang. "It's not often you see many all-girl teams competing in tech and robotics. We are proud of our girls for pushing boundaries and exploring their potential!"

Participants toured the facilities, met with an admission's counselor, spoke with Director of Athletics Sally Hatfield Clubb, ate in one of the dining halls and checked out freshmen dorms.

"They all felt excited about college and had many questions afterward, and I saw a lot of wheels turning!" said Hoang.

The Girl Scouts organization offers a wide variety of badges for girls K-12. Here are a few that make use of STEM areas: Naturalist badges: explore the outdoors; Digital Art badges: build technology and computer skills; Science and Technology badges: connect science topics; Innovation badges: encourage problem solving using scientific methods; Financial Literacy badges: prepare for a sound future.

For membership details or to learn how you can support girls by becoming a volunteer, visit [www.girlscoutsiowa.org](http://www.girlscoutsiowa.org)!

## Random

Random fact of the day:

Coriander and Cilantro are from the same plant (coriander is the seed, cilantro is the leaf).

Share as appropriate.

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