

Today is November 30 2018

Reminder for all Faculty and Staff

Online Courses Deadline: December 7

Info here:

<https://oncampus.wp.drake.edu/2018/11/26/faculty-and-staff-blackboard-course-deadline-dec-7/>

Final Grades due December 19

The online grading system in MYDUSIS is open now. Get grades in before 10 am on December 19.

STEM Grant Awarded to CEPD Consultant Ronda McCarthy

Ronda McCarthy is a Middle School Teacher at St. Teresa's Catholic School in Des Moines, Iowa and is a Consultant for Drake University's Continuing Education and Professional Development. Mrs. McCarthy has been working diligently to raise money and soliciting grants for the STEM program at her school. With success, St. Teresa School was granted \$25,000 by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council in partnership with various local businesses. The grant is awarded to STEM BEST to purchase 3D printers for their schools to help students apply their STEM knowledge to practical business projects developed by businesses and teachers for future careers.

Drake Graduate Joan Pace honored

At the annual Iowa World Language Association conference this year, Drake graduate, Joan Pace, was honored with the Distinguished Service Award for her exemplary world languages teaching over the course of her career. At the ceremony honoring her, Susann Sandholm-Peterson joined Joan for a photo with her husband and fellow Drake graduate, Larry Pace, for a photo--each of us has also been honored with the IWLA Distinguished Service Award--and we all agree that the professional preparation we received at Drake provided us with the foundation to accomplish our career achievements. In fact, of the twelve Distinguished Service recipients since 2000, five received undergraduate or graduate degrees at Drake--more than any other college or university. In addition, at least ten of the teachers honored as IWLA Teachers of the Year over the past years have studied at Drake. Drake SOE's emphasis on leadership and professional excellence was well in evidence at the conference this year, where there were dozens of teachers who studied World Languages Methods at Drake and who continue to value the professional learning which was a hallmark of their experiences in the SOE. A number of those Drake graduates also held leadership roles as presenters or conference organizers.

Contemplative Pedagogy

Many thanks to [Heather Dyer](#) for this insightful blog. She writes: I'm not interested in contemplative pedagogy because I want students to become more compassionate or self-aware. I just want to help them finish their theses - I want to show them how to generate creative insights. But increasingly, the more I urge students to 'trust the process', 'drop egoic desire' and be 'open, receptive and unattached to outcomes', the more I suspect that what I'm really asking them to do is love.

Not-knowing

The state of mind in which creative insights arise is a place of not-knowing. The poet Keats called it '*negative capability*', and it requires a high tolerance for uncertainty. This can be difficult for clever, overachieving, anxious people who like to be quick, right and certain. But it's only by letting go of certainties that we can grow.

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