A Message from Dean Carolyn H. Livingston

Dear Colleagues,

In the frenzy of the end of the term and academic year, you may not have had an opportunity to review the outcomes from the community conversations that President Poskanzer emailed to the campus community on June 2. I hope you’ll find time in the next weeks to do so. You can find the final document here: https://apps.carleton.edu/campus/president/climate/.

As you know, in spring term we engaged additional faculty, staff, and students in community conversations to discuss ways to enhance the Carleton community. I am grateful to everyone who attended, facilitated, and managed the complex logistics of the conversations; recommended thoughtful action steps; and heard our students. I also want to thank in advance those who will work in the upcoming year to fully realize the priorities that have emerged from those conversations. Stay tuned for more information this summer.

On Saturday, we said farewell to the Class of 2016. Many of you can recall specific students’ first few days and weeks at Carleton. Commencement is always a fitting time both to reflect on students’ growth over the past four years and to celebrate the role you played in their transformation.

I hope you’ll take time this summer to relax, regenerate, and rejuvenate!

Carolyn

What’s Coming Up

A brief selection of Student Life events...

Dacie Moses will be hosting two events Reunion weekend:
6/18 at 3 p.m.—homemade ice cream
6/19 at 9 a.m.—reunion brunch

Join the GSC and OAC to march in the Twin Cities Pride Parade Parade—6/26 (contact the GSC for more information)

Happy Summer!

Peer Leader Spotlight—Sophie Glassford
Taylor Morgan, Residential Life

One of Sophie’s favorite parts of working as an RA has been getting to know her fellow students: “Whether it’s getting to know my residents or meeting other RAs in the beginning of the year, it’s such a fantastic opportunity to work with some awesome Carls!”

Sophie thinks the job grows with each RA in a lot of ways too, but depends on the path they take. She explains, “I’ve moved from a freshmen-heavy area (Myers) to a mixed floor (Burton) and then to an upperclassmen area, and it’s been a really interesting set of transitions that have really challenged me in a lot of ways.”

Sophie can’t imagine Carleton without her experience as an RA. She’s learned a lot about the different resources Carleton provides to students, and she’s had a wonderful opportunity to support peers and have fun along the way: “I think the biggest lesson I’ll take away from being an RA is how to work well with people and be flexible and caring in difficult situations. That sounds really broad, but I think being an RA develops a lot of different skills; that’s something I really appreciate going beyond Carleton.”
**Department Updates**

**Academic Support Center:** Congratulations to Graham Earley, winner of the first Global Experience Travel Writing Contest, which was co-sponsored by the Writing Center, the Dean of Students Office, Cross-Cultural Studies, Global Engagement, OCS, and STA Travel. Sofia Chang and Trish Hare received second and third place, respectively, out of 26 submissions. Congrats, too, to Connor Dale, winner of our first Larry Haiku Contest, which we ran to honor our aquatic mascot. Dale received a large box of goldfish crackers from Costco.

**Alcohol & Other Drug Prevention:** The Carleton Coalition on Alcohol and Marijuana (CCAM) just completed its first year. During this time, we have: 1) created bylaws; 2) completed an extensive data-collection process; 3) analyzed our data to identify the six most significant local conditions that affect our students with regard to alcohol and marijuana; 4) selected nine evidence-based strategies to target those six variables; 5) built capacity and partnerships across campus and identified opportunities for collaboration, including athletics, parents, alumni, faculty, sexual violence prevention, and mental health awareness; and 6) completed a strategic plan to target alcohol and marijuana use on our campus. We begin implementing our strategic plan in July. The grant will end in September of 2019. CCAM is excited for the next three years of strategic implementation and substance abuse prevention.

**Career Center:** We are busy supporting students as they prepare for summer internships around the world. About one-third of Carleton’s returning students will intern this summer. To encourage success, students develop Learning Contracts to communicate goals and aspirations to their supervisors. Once they arrive at an internship site, students will stay in touch with other Carleton students through a closed blog hosted by the Career Center. The blog serves as a space for students to share their summer stories (both the triumphs and the challenges), as well as professional development and learning.

**Dacie Moses:** We had a fun time hosting a joint brunch with the GSC, WA House, and Q&A House, which included good food, games, and students. We also had a backyard homemade ice cream event accompanied by a lovely quartet and lots of students.

**Disability Services:** We are gearing up again for final exams. During winter term, we administered more than seventy exams over twenty-eight hours within the three-day exam period. Each administration requires not just individual scheduling, but also individual gathering from and returning to specific faculty. That’s just one example of the work you may not have realized goes into ensuring equal access for Carls with disabilities.

**Gender & Sexuality Center (GSC):** We want to thank all faculty, staff, and students who supported us and our programming this year. We rounded off spring term with a successful Pride Banquet and some amazing programming for Speak Up.

**Intercultural & International Life (OIIL):** Congrats to our peer leaders and office assistant for the 16-17 academic year: Ahmed Abdirahman, Gifty Amos Nwankwo, Proud Chanarat, Fangge Deng, Tenzin Dophen, Olwenn Fruchart, Amairany Fuentes, Apoorva Handigol, Quentin Hirsch, Ritvik Kar, Joon Kim, Bonny Lee, Byorlyn (Lyn) Mappy, Malekai Mischke, Pratistha Rijal, Genesis Rojas, Decker Schneider, Syed Usama Amer, Yue Wu, Yifan Zhong, and Azucena (Suzy) Briones (Office Assistant/House Manager Stimson).

**Residential Life:** We will have completed room draw for spaces on campus during the 16-17 academic year. We are getting ready to close the our halls and houses for the year. Happy summer, everyone!

**Student Activities Office (SAO):** We were very busy in May, advising student staff in event planning and coordination. Just two examples: the Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) hosted a trip to the Twins game, and the Cave hosted Battle of the Bands. The Spring Concert Committee also hosted the 35th annual Spring Concert, featuring BJ The Chicago Kid and Kehlani, the Battle of the Bands winners (The Karate Squids and Northern Riot), and three local Minnesota artists.

**Student Health & Counseling (SHAC):** We learned a lot more about NoroVirus in April and built a closer relationship with the MN Department of Health in the process. We co-sponsored training for students in Mental Health First Aid over midterm break. Our office has been excitedly involved in the interviewing/hiring process of new staff throughout the Division, but particularly in securing a new full-time psychologist colleague, Nate Page, who will joint our team on August 22!

**TRIO:** We were busy spring term! We hosted a very successful Class Act during sixth week in which we focused on “how we read status; reflections on professions and claims to authority.” A group of students attended “Trouble In Mind” at the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis. As we roll into summer, our staff will look to connect and re-connect with other departments on campus to offer our students a series of educational and professional workshops for the upcoming school year.
Peer Leader Spotlight—Sarah Tan

Ana Sontag, Student Activities

Sarah’s three years with the Student Activities Programming Board (SAPB) as the Music and Dance Program Assistant and now the Chairperson has been nothing but positive. “It may seem almost impossible to draw connections between this programming position and my field of study as a Theater Arts major and an Educational Studies concentrator,” she explains. “However, as a senior who is seeking out job opportunities, I have found that my SAPB experience has, in fact, opened many more doors for me.”

Event planning, while seemingly specialized, has taught Sarah crucial organization and management skills that often give her the opportunity to interact with professional artists and companies beyond the Carleton sphere. Additionally, Sarah has learned the importance of knowing her audience, bringing in performers that will enrich the Carleton community in a positive way. As she puts it, “This a skill that I have found to lend itself to the classroom as well, as I continue to discover different ways to create an all-inclusive environment for my students as I had done as a Peer Leader.”

The combination of Sarah’s Carleton experience as a student and SAPB Program Assistant has brought her to the Guthrie Theater as a summer camp assistant and soon as a Teaching Director at the Northfield Arts Guild. In her words, “I cannot be more grateful for the opportunity SAPB has given me to grow as an individual and leader in my communities.”

Staff Highlight—Laura Haave

Laura first visited Carleton in 2008 to lead an Our Whole Lives (OWL) sexuality education facilitator training for Gender and Sexuality Center Associates and Student Life staff. Laura explains, “OWL is a series of sexuality education curricula that I’ve worked with as an author and facilitator trainer for about 15 years. We had just published an OWL curriculum for college-age young adults, and Kaaren Williansen, the previous GSC Director, heard about it and invited me to campus.” She distinctly remembers staying at the Alumni Guest House, eating in Burton with students, and rearranging all the furniture in Sayles-Hill 251 to make room for training activities. “I was really impressed by the students, the staff, the campus, and Northfield,” she said, “so much so that I went home and told my partner that I thought we should move here. Six years later, in 2014, it happened!”

Laura started working in Student Life because she really loves working directly with students. She says, “Sometimes it’s hard to advance your career in Student Life without moving away from what brought you to the field in the first place!” Because of Carleton’s size and strong sense of community, Carleton allowed Laura to serve as the director of a center and have a meaningful impact on campus programs and policies, while still being an adviser, advocate, and supervisor to students. She elaborates, “Students constantly challenge my assumptions and create opportunities for me to think in new ways, which I love. I also like that the GSC’s mission ties together my three passions—sexuality education, advocacy for LGBTQA+ people, and challenging the normalization of sexual violence—which are often addressed by separate people and offices at other schools and not thought of in a holistic, interconnected way.”

Laura thinks that most people at Carleton who know her would not be surprised by her interests outside of work, saying, “If you’ve been to my office, you have probably seen my Sorting Hat, Lord of the Rings Pez dispensers and giant Lego Stormtrooper clock and know that I am a huge nerd.” If you’ve been to the GSC, you have probably eaten something that she’s cooked or baked and know that she loves to make yummy things for people (especially the GSCAs) and experiment with new recipes. Knitting is another passion: “If you have seen me with my needles and yarn around campus, you know that I love to knit (you probably don’t know how much yarn I have stored at my house, but that’s for the best).” Laura enjoys multi-tasking with her hobbies, so she knits while watching geeky TV shows and listen to podcasts about knitting while cooking.