

Chairs August 2017 Update

Message from Chair Fellow:

I love new crayons.

And today, while shopping my local, generic store for last minute dinner items, I couldn't resist wandering down the "back to school" aisle. I'll confess that this is my favorite time of year: summer is still in full force, we have a good 4 weeks of beautiful, Michigan warmth to enjoy, meanwhile the promise of an exciting, new beginning is on full display in the "back to school" sections of every store. Still peaceful and organized in early August, these shelves of folders, pencils, and crayons – especially the crayons – represent every high ideal and hope I have for the coming year. In August, resting in the comfort of knowing I have another 4 weeks to work through (or delay) my class preps, committee agendas, and last pages of that summer research project, those rows of new crayons in their yellow boxes symbolize the promise that this new year will be, well, *NEW*.

And this fall promises a lot of new on Oakland's campus – both personally and as a university community. Everyone is waiting with anticipation to hear and see our new President, Dr. Ora Pescovitz, in action. The school of Health Sciences is beginning a very exciting (and new) adventure as it transitions toward formal departments. We have several new people stepping into Chair positions across the university. We have new classes...new committees...and new faculty. I know there's lots more to add to this list.

This year, I'm thrilled to be the new Chair Fellow. I've included some of the events we have planned for below; please consider joining us. New (and experienced) faces are very welcome to attend and connect as we tackle the opportunities and challenges of "Chair life."

Until then, I hope you are embracing these last weeks of Michigan summer to accomplish, rest, connect, and enjoy. And the next time you wander by the "back to school" aisle, I hope you'll consider grabbing a box of crayons for yourself. What a great new year this will be!

Chair Events and Resources:

1. The **Chairs' Retreat** is planning for August 29th from 10:00am – 2:00pm at Meadowbrook Hall. Coffee service will begin at 9:30am. Join fellow Chairs in a discussion of the "Challenges and Opportunities: Chair, Faculty and Student Success" We will focus on how we as chairs address this through our own academic department leadership. Please register for the event here. (*insert link for registration*)
2. **Chair Forums** will continue this year. These informal discussions include lunch and networking with other Chairs across the university. Dates include:
 - Monday, Sept. 25th: Chair Success
 - Friday, Oct. 27th: Faculty Success
 - Monday, Nov. 20th: Student Success

(insert link for registration)

3. As **Chair Fellow**, I am always open and available to discuss, listen, and connect with department Chairs across the university. If you would like to schedule a moment to chat (or just say, “Hello”), I can be reached at Heisler@oakland.edu.
4. Please check out Chair Resources
 - **Chairs’ Corner** *(insert link)*
 - **Chairs’ Resource Guide** *(insert link)*

Faculty Events:

1. **New Faculty Orientations**
 - Full Time Faculty Dinner- Tuesday, August 22nd 5:00-8:00 Meadowbrook Hall ***(insert registration link)***
 - Full Time Faculty Orientation- Wednesday, August 23rd- 8:30-5:30- Gold Rooms- Oakland Center ***insert registration link)***
 - Part Time Orientation- Thursday, August 24th, 5:00-9:00 pm- CETL Learning Studio- 200A Elliott Hall ***insert registration link)***
2. **Resources for New Faculty** (including recordings of PreOrientation workshops- ***(insert registration link)***)
3. **CETL website-** ***(insert registration link)***
4. **Faculty Handbook-** ***(insert registration link)***

We hope you enjoy the remainder of your summer. Looking forward to seeing you at the 3rd Annual Chair’s Retreat.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Heisler Chair Fellow heisler@oakland.edu
Judy Abelser CETL Director ableser@oakland.edu