



Greetings SOIS Friends –

Last week we wrapped up the Spring 2021 semester with various virtual celebrations for graduating students, and with some scrambling for continuing students to finish the semester and then start again for the Summer term. Our SOIS virtual graduation ceremony replaced our usual Champaign Supper; without the ability to gather together face-to-face, we met via Zoom to congratulate our students virtually. We sent student boxes ahead of time with some SOIS swag, along with disposable Champaign-style glasses for a final toast. There were student remembrances (via the Padlet app), comments from faculty, and door prizes! All in all, it was a festive alternative to our more formal gatherings from previous years. This past Sunday, May 9, the University held undergraduate and graduate Commencement ceremonies, also online, and which were also quite lovely. For those of you celebrating family graduations and all other festivities of the Spring season, I wish you much joy, and comfort to those of you remembering lost loved ones.

Stay safe –

Kate Marek

Director and Professor

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NEW FACULTY MEMBER



As we look ahead to fall, we are excited to announce a **new faculty member. Anthony W. Dunbar**, Ph.D and MLIS from UCLA, and M.Ed. in Teaching and Learning from the University of Utah, is a thought leader in the areas of equity, inclusion, diversity (EID), and social justice applied to race and gender as well as economic and information resources. His dissertation focuses on applying a Critical Race Information Theory Lens to Information Studies. We are thrilled to have Tony joining our SOIS faculty in the fall!

NEW UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN FOR REBECCA CROWN

Also new to Dominican will be the new University Librarian Estevan Montaña, effective July 1, 2021. Estevan has been serving as Director of Libraries at Roosevelt University since 2015. Prior to that, served as Technology Services Manager at Palatine Public Library, and as Electronic Resources Coordinator/Technology Reference Librarian at Ela Area Public Library. Estevan earned a Master of Arts in Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and a Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies and Classical Studies at the University of New Mexico. He is the current President of LIBRAS, and he serves on the boards of the Black Metropolis Research Consortium and the Chicago Collections Consortium. Estevan will be following our current University Librarian Felice Maciejewski, who has served in that position (Rebecca Crown University Librarian) at Dominican since 2012 and is retiring this summer. We express deep appreciation to Felice for her leadership in the Rebecca Crown Library for the past ten years as well as her constant support of SOIS and our collaborative work. We look forward to continuing those collaborations and working with Estevan Montaña when he begins in July.

SPRING 2021 SOIS GRADUATING STUDENTS

Congratulations to our SOIS Spring 2021 Graduates! These students graduated this semester with a Bachelor degree in Informatics (BS), Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS), or Master of Science in Information Management (MSIM).

BS / BSH: Luis Aguilar Castellanos, Leonel Cardenas, Leslie Favela, Lourdes Fernandez, Eleanor Horan, Alisha Markley, Wojciech Pietrzak, Achille Ruffolo, Jonathan Seals.

MLIS: Holly Beverley, Jessica Bond, Claudia Brand, Twan Brown-Mitchell, Eilis Corcoran, Kara Craig, Courtney Ellis, Amanda Gaston, Susan Gordon, Kimberly Kanofsky, Susan Kiss, Emily Klotz, Rebekkah LaRue, Colleen Malo, Mary Alice Maloney, Madeline McGuire, Connie Meade, Laura Negrete, Katie Parfitt, Maria Planansky, Margaret Rountree, Tiffany Skelnik, Carly Stauss, Jessica Tarnowski, Kenneth Theisen, Renee Yunker.

MSIM: Marissa Giesler, Carl Urness, Natasha Wojcicki

Note to all graduates: Please keep us updated with your employment news, and with your current email address. Send employment news to SOIS@dom.edu, and contact information to alumni@dom.edu.

FACULTY RECOGNITIONS

Congratulations to our SOIS Faculty members for their University accomplishments for 2020-2021. These anniversaries, promotions, and awards were publicly recognized at the University's Faculty Appreciation Celebration in April:

Bill Crowley, Professor, was recognized for 25 years of service to Dominican University, and to the School of Information Studies.

Karen Snow, Promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. Awarded a Sabbatical for Fall 2021.

Stacy Kowalczyk, Promoted from Associate Professor to Professor. Awarded a Sabbatical for Fall 2021. Also, this year Dr. Kowalczyk was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award for the College of Applied Social Sciences.

Hassan Zamir, Promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor. Zamir also received a Dominican University Summer Research Stipend.

Enjoy the summer!

Submit Your News

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