



## From the Director

First-Year Program Faculty:

Congratulations on an outstanding year of teaching. You have helped students from one of DePaul's biggest-ever first-year classes transition into becoming successful DePaul scholars. As the Spring Quarter Focal Point Seminar instructors finish determining and submitting grades, the Autumn Quarter Chicago Quarter faculty are already at work planning their classes with their teaching teams.

Before the Summer hits, we have a couple tasks for those of you teaching Chicago Quarter which need to be completed by **THIS MONDAY, June 15:**

- All CQ faculty should submit a Welcome Letter, directions for which can be found on pp. 8-9 of the faculty handbook. These should be emailed to Sarah Miller at [smille28@depaul.edu](mailto:smille28@depaul.edu).
- Discover faculty should submit a plan for New Student Service Day (Tuesday, Sept. 8) to Miriam Miller at [serviceday@depaul.edu](mailto:serviceday@depaul.edu). Information about this can be found on p. 11 of the handbook.

A couple good ways to access the handbook are via [go.depaul.edu/fyp](http://go.depaul.edu/fyp) or via our D2L site for Chicago Quarter faculty. To find the latter from the opening D2L, page, change your role to Participant. In the No Quarters category, click on Chicago Quarter Instructors.

Most of the information you'll need will be under the Content tab. Most important is the link to the Faculty Handbook, which was recently updated:

[academics.depaul.edu/liberal-studies/first-year-program/for-faculty/Pages/handbooks-resources.aspx](http://academics.depaul.edu/liberal-studies/first-year-program/for-faculty/Pages/handbooks-resources.aspx)

The D2L links also include several FAQs and a succinct, two-page overview of Common Hour, as well as materials from the Chicago Quarter Best Practices breakout sessions.

### Chicago Quarter Best Practices

Thanks to everyone who attended our annual Best Practices conference for Chicago Quarter classes on May 29 in the Lincoln Park Student Center. We had some wonderful breakout sessions and it was great chance to interact with teaching teams and other instructors. As a large group, we did a trial run of Mixlr, a free app you can use during excursions as a microphone (for you) and headsets (for your students). If you try this program, or Voxel, another free app that works more like walkie talkies, I'd be interested in hearing your experience with them.

Special thanks to the presenters: (Discover instructor) Jason Martin, (Discover instructor) Mary Bridget Kustusch, (Explore instructor) Phil Funk, (Staff Professional) Erin Sella, (CQM) Rachel Batshon, Jen O'Brien (from TLA), (Discover instructor) Phil Meyers, (Staff Professional) Michelle Johnson, (CQM) Dylan Plachta, (Discover instructor), Melissa Markley, (Discover instructor) Leah Bryant, & (Discover instructor) Matt Ragas. And a very special thanks to our Chicago Quarter partners, New Student and Family Engagement, especially Toni Fitzpatrick and Ziena Miller.

### First-Year Writing Showcase

The annual First-Year Writing Showcase (May 20, Cortelyou Commons) was again a grand success, largely due to the leadership of Eileen Seifert. Winners included students from First-Year Program classes, including David Brenders' Focal Point Seminar, Eric Mata's Explore Chicago class, and three students from my Focal Points.

The inspiring keynote speaker was Maria Hinojosa, anchor and executive producer of Latino USA on NPR and DePaul's Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Chair.



*Interim LAS Dean Lucy Rinehart, First-Year Writing Director Julie Bokser, and keynote speaker Maria Hinojosa*

### Summer

We hope you enjoy a well-deserved, rewarding, and relaxing Summer. Sarah Miller, Mike Edwards, Maria Hernandez, and I will be around in case you have questions as you prepare your classes. Thanks again for a wonderful year.

*- Doug Long*

### Important Dates!

- Thursday, Aug. 27, 10-noon: Pre-Immersion Week Meeting (Discover Chicago teams)
- Monday-Friday, Aug. 31-Sept. 4, Immersion Week (Discover Chicago)
- Tuesday, Sept. 8: New Student Service Day (Discover Chicago)
- Tuesday, Sept. 8, 3-5 p.m.: Great Starts Meeting (Explore Chicago teams)

# Chicago Quarter Best Practices 2015

