Greetings to all!! As the semester winds down, here are some things you may find helpful:

1. **Spring 2018 Registration**
   Early registration for Spring 2018 is over, **however**, you may still sign up for classes using Campus Connection up through **January 18, 2018**. If you have not registered for spring semester yet, **DO IT NOW!** Waiting until finals week or later to register will seriously limit your choices as most classes are full or nearly full!!! If you need to double check things, Julie and I have plenty of appointment times available for the rest of the semester. Please remember, we do not make our own appointments by e-mail or phone!! Reserve a time online using the **Starfish** system: [https://und.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/support/login.html](https://und.starfishsolutions.com/starfish-ops/support/login.html). If you are unable to find us in Starfish, you may call our main office during regular business hours at 777-2749.

2. **Closed classes, labs and wait lists**
   If you are still doing some schedule tweaking, here are a few things to keep in mind:
   - If there are still **open sections** of the lecture or lab of a course you want or need (even if they are not at the time, or have the instructor you want) **try to work your schedule around so you can sign up for them** - rather than pinning your hopes on getting into a closed course!
   - If you find that **all lecture sections** of a course are closed, you may still be able to get in. **Check with the instructor of the course** to see if they are using a wait list or will give you an immediate override.
   - If you find that **all lab sections** of a course are closed, this is a different story. Generally, you cannot get an override into a full lab - once a lab is full, there is no more physical space or equipment for extra students. **Check with the instructor of the course** to see how to proceed.
   - The **electronic wait list** feature offered by Campus Connection is pretty easy to use and many classes offer this option. It is automatic - if someone drops out of a closed class/lab, the next person on the wait list for that specific section is automatically added to the class/lab by Campus Connection.

   **Important FYI:** you won't be notified if you are added to a lecture/lab section from an electronic waitlist, so keep checking your schedule on Campus Connection for updates. If you have questions about how to get on an electronic wait list, One-Stop or the Student Success Center can help.

3. **We finally have the details on the 2018 Kaplan MCAT course!!!**
   We have entered into an institutional agreement with Kaplan which will dramatically reduce the cost of the UND course for you! The current cost of their MCAT Review course is $2499... our course cost will be **$1799!!** Unlike years past, UND will now handle registration for the Kaplan MCAT Review course through our **UND Office of Extended Learning**. **Registration for the Kaplan MCAT Review course will be online and will open DECEMBER 7, 2017.** I will forward the URL for registration when it opens to those on my MCATers 2018 listserv only – if you do not get the test message I am sending out to that listserv today, let me know!!

   **Preferred Registration deadline is DECEMBER 14, 2017, 4:30PM**
   **Late Registration deadline is JANUARY 4, 2018, 4:30PM**

   With this new agreement, Kaplan will only process registrations once a month, immediately following each Registration deadline. So on December 15th and January 5th, Kaplan will set up online access, and ship books to those newly registered. While getting your online access will only take a few days, receiving the books may take up to 2 weeks - keep that in mind when giving them an address for shipping your books. Also, be aware that you have a 4+ hour Diagnostic Test to complete before the start of the course, so registering by the earlier deadline of **DECEMBER 14** is your best option – you won’t have your books by the start of class if you wait until January 4th to register! Any student needing to drop the course can do so with a 90% refund by February 1, 2018. **AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 2018,** all enrollments are final and no refunds will be given by UND.
4. Attention Juniors!!

If you are planning to take your DAT, OAT, or GRE next spring or summer remember that since these tests are computerized, they are only offered at specific testing sites. UND is no longer a testing site for the MCAT, however, we still offer the other tests: DAT, OAT, PCAT, and GRE. Be sure to register for the test no later than the end of January. That way you will be sure to get a seat at your preferred testing site on your preferred date. Most sites offer several tests a week BUT only a seat or two each. Be sure to take your first test no later than June 1st. That way, if you need to retake it, you can do so before school here starts up again in August. Remember you must wait 90 days before retesting the DAT or OAT, and 60 days before retesting the GRE. We are still working on setting up a way for you to register for the Kaplan Review courses for the DAT, OAT, PCAT or GRE under the Institutional Partnership discount we now have. I should know more about this by the end of the week!!

5. Need to drop to 12 credits to help with test prep next semester?

Students receiving scholarships from UND (based on high school GPA and ACT score) and are normally required to take 15 credits each semester. You may, however, petition to take less than 15 credits once during your time here. The spring in which you are prepping for your standardized health professional entrance exam (MCAT, DAT, OAT, PCAT, GRE) might be a good time to do this!! Petitions to take less than 15 credits next semester are available in the Financial Aid Office (see Kaitlin Lockett – Twamley Hall, Room 216). You have to fill out the first page and an advisor has to fill out the second page. If you want me to do this for you, please submit your petition to me no later than Tuesday, December 12, 2017. They will be ready for pick-up on Thursday, December 14, 2017. I will not be in over Christmas break to do these!

6. Attention Freshman!! February is Freshmen Group Advising Month!!!!!

Please remember Julie will be offering required small group advising sessions for freshman Pre-Health students (regardless of major) only during the month of February next semester. You must attend one of these sessions to plan your schedule for Fall 2018 and stay in your Pre-Health program. Session times are as follows:

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<th>Fridays</th>
<th>9-10am</th>
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<td>February 2</td>
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You must use the following link to sign up for your Small Group Advising appointment: [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c44a4a729a5f85-freshman](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b0c44a4a729a5f85-freshman)

Keep in mind the following instructions for using the above link:
1. Control+Click on the link above
2. Select which date and time you prefer
3. Check the Sign Up box on your preference
4. Click Submit and Sign up at bottom of page
5. Make sure quantity is 1
6. You MUST enter your NAME, EMAIL, PHONE NUMBER, STUDENT ID and which PRE-HEALTH PROGRAM you are currently enrolled in (this information will NOT be seen by other students)
7. Click sign up now
8. You will get a confirmation email and also a reminder 2 days prior to your appointment

Remember:
- each session will take about 30-45 minutes, but allow for an hour in case there are questions
- each session will be held in the large conference room (room 1917) in Columbia Hall
- each session is limited to 8 students, so call early to get your preferred date and time!
- if you miss your session for any reason, go ahead and sign up for another session - Julie will not e-mail information or scheduling advice covered in these sessions if you miss!
- if none of the session times work with your UND Spring 2018 schedule, please contact Julie for instructions – we don’t want you skipping classes!! (This does not apply for other non-UND sanctioned conflicts).
7. Summer Opportunities for 2018 are already hitting my desk. Here are a few:

- **Serious Fun Children’s Camps**: Hollywood legend and philanthropist Paul Newman started it all with one simple thought: Kids with serious illnesses should get a chance to simply be kids. He founded the **Serious Fun Children’s Network** which provides children living with serious illnesses a spectacular camp experience and high-quality medical care, all in the safest and most supportive environment. There are now 30 camps spread across the country that provide this experience **free of charge**. All the camps, **Victory Lane**, **Boggy Creek**, and **Hole in the Wall Gang** to name a few, need volunteers to run. If you are interested in doing this for the summer, check out their web page at: [http://www.seriousfunnetwork.org/about](http://www.seriousfunnetwork.org/about).

- **Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP)** is a **FREE** (full tuition, housing, and meals) six-week summer academic enrichment program that offers **freshman** and **sophomore college students** intensive and personalized health professional school preparation. It is a national program funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation with direction and technical assistance provided by The Association of American Medical Colleges and The American Dental Education Association. It runs at 13 program sites across the nation. SHPEP’s goal is to strengthen the academic proficiency and career development of students underrepresented in the health professions and to prepare them for a successful application and matriculation to health professions schools. These students include, but are not limited to, individuals who identify as African American/Black, American Indian and Alaska Native and Hispanic/Latino, and who are from communities of socioeconomic and educational disadvantage. **Applications open December 1, 2017 and are viewed on a rolling basis.** The final due date is **February 15, 2018**. To find out more, visit: [http://www.shpep.org](http://www.shpep.org).

- **The University of Michigan Summer Enrichment Program (UM SEP) in Health Management and Policy** is looking for undergraduate students who seek to improve the health status and health care of underserved communities across the United States. **UM SEP** partners with Michigan hospitals and other health care organizations in Detroit and Ann Arbor to provide a **paid** eight week summer internship and to expose students to the health care field and health issues that persist today. **Program dates** are **May 30–July 27, 2018** and the **application deadline** is **January 19, 2018**. For more information or to apply go to: [https://sph.umich.edu/sep](https://sph.umich.edu/sep). Questions? Contact them by e-mail at **um.sep@umich.edu** or by phone at (734) 936-3296. Participation in this program is something that we would consider as fulfilling some requirements for the **UND Diversity & Inclusion Certificate**.

8. Advising over Christmas break

I will be out of the office and unavailable for advising visits during the **entire Christmas break**. Please make sure any concerns or questions you wish to discuss with me about next semester are dealt with **before December 14th** - otherwise you will have to wait until **January 9th**!

Julie will be out of the office **December 25th through January 1st**. She is available for appointments or questions on either side of that week over the break.

That is all for now – have a good finals week, safe travels, and a blessed Christmas!!

*Mrs. Kim Ruit*, UND Health Sciences Advisor