

# First year as Faculty

**Claire Kelling**  
**Carleton College**



# Where we're going

**01**

## **Context**

Where am I? How does this compare to your interests?

**02**

## **Culture**

Getting to know your new university and department

**03**

## **Finding harmony**

Between teaching, research, and service

**04**

## **Community**

Finding a community of mentors / peers to uplift you

**05**

## **Your turn**

Discussion about what you're expecting, questions you have, etc.

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# About Me



Claire Kelling

Assistant Professor of Statistics  
Carleton College



**01**

# **Context**

Carleton College



# Context

- Department of Mathematics and Statistics



# Context

- Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- **Teaching-focused** undergraduate university with expectation of **scholarship**



# Context

## Teaching-focused

- “Highly selective”
- 2-2-1 (trimesters)
- Intro courses capped at ~35
- Upper-level capped at ~20
- Graders/TAs
- Undergraduate
  - Statistics Major
  - New Data Science minor
  - Intro Stat as service course





# Context

## Research-focused

- Peer-reviewed papers
- Talks, consulting, refereeing, writing reviews, conference participation
- Grants Office support (not required)
- Student research & interdisciplinary collaborations encouraged



# Context

## Research-focused

- **Comps:** senior thesis at Carleton
- Individual or group
- Carleton faculty advise these groups



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Mike Adams



Deepak  
Bastola



Corey Brooke



Laura Ch



4



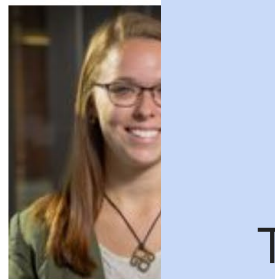
Claudio  
Gómez-  
González



Deanna  
Haunsperger



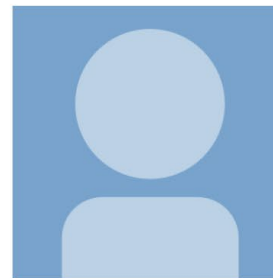
Joseph  
Johnson



Claire Ke

## 02 Culture

Take time to get to  
know your department  
& university





# Culture



**University norms**



**Departmental norms**

# Culture



**University norms**



**Departmental norms**

# Culture



## **University norms**

Liberal arts vs. universities,  
business/engineering  
schools



## **Departmental norms**

# Culture



## **University norms**

Where does Statistics  
fit?



## **Departmental norms**



# Culture



## **University norms**

Demand for Statistics &  
Data Science



## **Departmental norms**

# Culture



## **University norms**

Finances post-COVID



## **Departmental norms**

# Culture



## **University norms**

Handling of COVID-19



## **Departmental norms**

# Culture



## **University norms**



## **Departmental norms**

New courses & semester  
preps



# Culture



**University norms**



**Departmental norms**

Assistant Professor  
service expectations

# Culture



## **University norms**



## **Departmental norms**

What is the best way to be heard as an assistant professor?

# Culture



**University norms**



**Departmental norms**

Established  
collaborations

# Culture



## **University norms**



## **Departmental norms**

Concrete efforts to  
support DEI

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A woman in a black business suit and white shirt is balancing on a tightrope. She is holding two large, dark gray circles, one in each hand, as if they are weights or part of a performance. The background is a light gray with a white wall and a dark gray floor. A blue rectangular box on the right contains the text.

# **04**

## **Finding harmony**

Between teaching,  
research, and service

# Finding harmony



**Teaching**



**Research**



**Service**



# Finding harmony



## Teaching

- Find a strategy to limit putting all of your time into prep,
- “Research Day”
- Calendly
- Ongoing revisions
- “First pancake”



## Research



## Service

# Finding harmony



## Teaching



## Research

- List your projects (in order?)
- Find collaborators with your style, student collaborators
- Meet the grants office
- Internal grants
- Careful of too many projects
- Ask for promotion details



## Service

# Finding harmony



## Teaching



## Research



## Service

- Department expectations
- Review a book/papers
- Share course materials
- Co-advise projects
- Letter writing

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**05**

## **Community**

Finding a community of  
mentors / peers to  
uplift you

# Community

- Find **mentors/peers** to help you along the way



# Community

- Find **mentors/peers** to help you along the way
- Both inside your department / university and outside





# Community

- Find **mentors/peers** to help you along the way
- Both inside your department / university and outside
- Many Statistics mentoring programs exist! (ex: ASA Sections)





# Other

Helpful tips/practices to consider:

- Daily lesson reflection on what went well/didn't go well (takes <5 minutes!)
- Reflect every term on overall trends related to teaching, research, and service
- Chat with other new faculty! (New Faculty Writing Group?)
- Writing out *prioritized* research/teaching goals
- IT and physical infrastructure
- Course releases
- NCFDD Faculty Success Program



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Claire Kelling  
[ckelling@carleton.edu](mailto:ckelling@carleton.edu)

Carleton is hiring  
a tenure-track  
statistician!

[https://www.mathjobs.  
org/jobs/list/22636](https://www.mathjobs.org/jobs/list/22636)

