Setting the Direction

Sue Droog
Dordt College, sue.droog@dordt.edu

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One of the most rewarding parts of my job in human resources is sitting in on dozens of interviews every year. Toward the end of every job interview, I provide an opportunity for the candidate to ask questions that might help them discern if Dordt and this position is the right fit. Inevitably, they ask a question such as “What do you like best about working at Dordt?” or “What is the culture and environment like at Dordt?” As an HR leader, I find it encouraging to sit back and listen to Dordt faculty and staff describe Dordt’s culture to prospective employees. Recently, I heard comments such as:

“I love the sense of community we have here.”

“I appreciate that there are high expectations here, but collaboration, accountability, and support for each other.”

“I enjoy opportunities to worship with faculty, staff, and students every Wednesday in chapel.”

“I love the sense of collaboration and respect between my colleagues. This is a place that encourages research, ideas, and innovation.”

“I feel valued for my knowledge and experience, and I am encouraged and supported in my professional development.”

One of my favorite descriptions given this past year was at the end of an interview. When asked to describe the culture at Dordt, the staff member said, “For me, it is like we are on a big ship. We all have our distinct roles or sections of the ship; some work in the kitchen or maintenance, some are in guest services, others are navigating and setting the direction to steer the boat. We all have different skills and different tasks, but at the end of the day, it is a blessing to be in a place where we are all working to move the ship in the same direction. We all know who we are but most importantly who we are. We know who we serve, and that guides everything we do. Things can go wrong, but the focus people have at Dordt for our mission and glorifying God helps us stay on course.”

I feel blessed to be a part of this community and look forward to seeing how God will continue to bless Dordt in the 2018-19 academic year through the efforts of current and new faculty and staff who continue to build a vibrant culture together where we can serve God.

SUE DROOG SERVES AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP AT DORDT.