TO: Faculty Senate
FROM: Harold W. Baillie, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
DATE: October 9, 2009
RE: Provost's Report for October 2009

______________________________

ACADEMIC PLANNING:
Tactical (three year) plans are being developed for both Academic Affairs and
Enrollment Management. They will be available for the December Board meeting.

A BRIEF REVIEW OF IMPORTANT ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES:

Education Department:
The education department has received approval from PDE for its grades four through
eight teacher education program, with a recognition for innovative practice. We await
word on the programs for grades Pre-K through four.

Admissions/Enrollment Management:
We are currently discussing the goals for admissions for 2010 in all areas of their
responsibility. We are also discussing tuition increases and the discount rate for both
graduate and undergraduate students.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:

Faith and Reason: A Dialog at the Heart of Jesuit Education
I led a group of faculty and administrators to Fordham for three days of discussion on the
relationship between faith and reason and the role of both in a Catholic, Jesuit University.
Organized by the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture, the conference was supported
by the three East Coast Jesuit provinces. Plenary speakers were Charles Taylor, John W.
O’Malley, S.J., Michael Himes, and Christine Wiseman. The University of Scranton
participants were:

Joseph Dreisbach  Jessica Nolan
John Deak       Abhijit Roy
Joseph Kraus

Luncheon with Second Year Faculty:
On September 17, I held a luncheon with the second year faculty to see how they were
adjusting and to take suggestions on how to improve the experience of new faculty. They
remain an ambitious and very social group and generated some good ideas to help in the
transition to our community.
**Intersession Grant Proposals:** We have received Eleven (11) Intersession Grant Proposals. The committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the proposals.

**Faculty Grants:**
During the 2008-2009 academic year the following grants were awarded to our faculty:
Five Intersession Grants;
Six Summer Grants;
Two 2009 Clavius Grants;
Five 2009 University of Scranton/Marywood Coop Grants.

**Faculty Travel:**
Faculty Travel funds supported 166 faculty traveling to conferences in 2008-2009.

**SUSTAINABILITY:**

**Sustainability Task Force Planning:**
The Sustainability Task Force will be addressing the following issues during the 2009-2010 academic year:
- Planning for Earth Day 2010 (40th Anniversary) in conjunction with Education for Justice
- Developing a campus-wide composting plan of action
- Developing a plan for distributing unused food from cafeteria and on-campus meetings/events in conjunction with Education for Justice Task Force
- Exploring feasibility of creating and using biodiesel from oil and other wastes
- Increasing/Improving campus and community awareness of sustainability efforts
  - Integrate commitment to sustainability into new employee orientation
  - Create system for collecting faculty, student, staff, and campus policies, practices, and achievements
- Developing an assessment plan for faculty, student, and campus outcomes related to sustainability programming

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:**
Nine faculty members are participating in a year-long faculty seminar on civic engagement facilitated by Dr. Steven Jones, Associate Provost for Civic Engagement and Academic Mission. The group meets once a month to discuss selected readings on civic engagement and to share ideas and practices with each other related to civically engaged teaching, research, and service. The names of the participants are listed below:

Molly Mika
Jessica Nolan
Kim Pavlick
Meghan Rich
Abhijit Roy

Jamie Trnka
Barbara Wagner
Kathleen Wasserman
Gloria Wenze
EDUCATION FOR JUSTICE:
The Education for Justice Task Force, under the direction of Sr. Mary Anne Foley, will be focusing on the theme, “Food” during the 2009-2010 academic year. Among the activities under planning are a local foods dinner, to be held in November, and working with the Sustainability Task Force to focus Earth Day observations around the themes of food and sustainability.

The following University of Scranton faculty and staff attended the Commitment to Justice Conference at Fairfield University this past June:
- Rosette Adera
- Niyati Ahuja
- Mary Anne Foley
- Jean Harris
- Steven Jones
- Tata Mbugua

PERFORMANCE MUSIC:
Performance Music is run by Cheryl Boga with the assistance of Colleen Gilboy and now reports to academics.

SENIOR FELLOW FOR INTERNATIONAL, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC PROJECTS:
The Schemel Forum has set its Fall 2009 schedule. The lecture and discussion topics are

- Metamorphosis & Literature, led by Denise Fulbrook, Church & State or Church v. State?, led by Morey M. Myers, Esq., Spanish Language & Cultures for Beginners: A Forum For Cross-Cultural Understanding, led by El-Habib Zanzana, Ph.D.
  - The fall luncheon series topics are Give Art a Chance: The Holocaust Narrative Amplified, Judith Shendar, Deputy Director and Senior Art Curator, Yad Vashem, Israel;
  - Israel/Palestine: A Tale of Two Truths, David N. Myers, Professor of Jewish History, UCLA;
  - Promised Land: The Books That Shaped America; Jay Parini, Distinguished Author & Professor of English, Middlebury College;
  - Afghanistan/Pakistan: As Seen from the Ground; and US Foreign Policy, Trudy Rubin, World Affairs Correspondent, The Philadelphia Inquirer
  - US Foreign Policy: Ten Months into the Obama Era, Harvey Sicherman, President, Foreign Policy Research Institute.

On Saturday, September 12, the Schemel Forum held its second “University for a Day.”

REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA:
Dr. Dan West and I spent nine days in the Republic of Georgia teaching at the University of Georgia under the grant support of USAID and the American International Health Alliance (AIHA). While there, we met with Dr. Guila Alasania, president of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Manana Sanadze, President of the University. Dr. Alasania is the mother of the President of Georgia, Mikheil Saakashvili. Partly in response to that meeting, President Saakashvili has asked The University of Scranton to assist the University of Georgia in creating a new university in Batumi, a Georgian port on the Black Sea. We are currently in discussions about the details of such an effort.
REPORT FROM THE CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM:
The initial meeting of the academic year is scheduled for 23 October 2009. Two new members join the board: Dr. Hong Nguyen representing (KSOM) and Dr. Robert Spalletta (Nat Sci, CAS). The committee will review six KSOM writing intensive course proposals. It will also begin discussions about a concept draft plan for Core Curriculum/General Education assessment which has as the focus goal, better organizing assessment activities, and developing a structure for review and dissemination of assessment results. The Faculty Senate will be updated regularly on the matter before proposals are brought forth for review and discussion.

REPORT FROM THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH SERVICES AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS:
The ORSSP is reviewing 11 research proposals submitted for internal funding in fall 2009, and 20 sabbatical applications. The IRB reviewed 12 applications since 1 June 09, and the IACUC 3. Congratulations are due to Drs. Berger and Spalletta for their being awarded US Patent 7584807 for the Multiple PulseJet Boring Device (aka the Archimedes Javelin). We are in active discussions about moving the intellectual property forward to development. We were informed that Dr. West received a $95K award from the Department of Education. Multiple faculty have come forth to inquire about funding processes and opportunities, and 3 submissions have been made since 1 Sept and another 5 submissions are planned through 20 November 2009. ORS is engaged in conversations necessary external funding for a potential collaboration of the UoFSt with a start-up company.