TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Harold W. Baillie, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: October 8, 2010

RE: Provost’s Report for October 2010

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:
The Board of Trustees approved the retirement of the Political Science Associate Degree. The Board also eliminated its standing committee on Civic Engagement. It decided there were two content areas covered in this committee, community relations and civic engagement. Community relations will become part of the Campus Community committee, and the content of civic engagement will be absorbed into Educational Excellence.

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE
The Presidential Search Committee has been fully formed.
Faculty members are:
   Marion Farrell       Nursing/PCPS
   George Gomez        Biology/CAS
   Nabil Tamimi        OIM/KSOM
   Kevin Nordberg      Philosophy/At Large

Board Members:
   Mary Beth Farrell
   Otto Henze
   Karen Pennington
   Frank Pern
   Kip Condon (ex officio)

Staff Members:
   Anne Marie Stamford   Professional
   Nancy Laffey          Clerical
   Todd Parry            Maintenance

CURRICULUM APPROVALS:
Program Deletion:
Political Science Associate Degree         posted 2/9/10
FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:

Intersession Grant Proposals: We have received ten Intersession Grant Proposals. The committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the proposals.

Brown Bag Luncheon: The first Brown Bag Luncheon of this academic year is scheduled for October 21st from 11:45 to 12:45 pm in the Provost Conference Room. The topic is Curriculum Changes. Please contact my office to reserve a seat. A light lunch will be available.

FACULTY SEARCHES:

A combined ad has been placed in the Chronicle of Higher Education announcing ten tenure track faculty openings in eight departments. The Ad will appear in the October 15 edition. The listing has also been posted to the Provost’s website.

COMMITTEES:

Faculty Handbook:
The Faculty Handbook Committee will begin discussions on the promotion and tenure criteria for librarians.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT:

The Task Force on Sustainability is currently drafting a tactical plan to address the following goals from the Strategic Plan:

- We will ensure the vitality of academic programs at all levels, adding new and innovative undergraduate and graduate options that are in character with our mission and responsive to the market. This includes the integration of technology and sustainability into the curriculum.
- We will achieve our strategic aspirations and maintain essential operations through integrated financial planning, efficient and sustainable use of resources, and opportunistic approaches to generating new revenue that are consistent with our mission.
- We will plan for and invest in technology and facilities, embracing principles of environmental sustainability that will enhance educational excellence and serve the evolving needs of our students and community.

By the end of the 2010 Fall Semester, the Sustainability Task Force to develop a sustainability plan based on meeting the criteria outlined in the American Association for Sustainability in Higher Education’s Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS). These criteria fall under four broad categories: Education and Research, Operations, Planning and Administration, and Engagement. By applying the STARS criteria, the Task Force will be able to identify those aspects of campus sustainability that we are already doing well, and those areas that need improvement. The plan will identify specific goals in the areas of operations, particularly with respect to
building operations and management, greenhouse gas emissions, energy efficiency, food services, purchasing, and water and waste management.

**The Annual Conference of the Pennsylvania Council for International Education**
was held last week in Scranton. Several University of Scranton faculty and staff attended the conference with support from the Office of International Programs and Services.

**Education for Justice Initiative**

- Report on calendar of events: We discussed various upcoming events sponsored by the Education for Justice Program. These included:
  - Aug. 30th Aloys Mahwa “Rwanda: Society in Transition” co-sponsored by the Office of Equity and Diversity.
  - Oct. 14th John A. Donaghy “Working with the Poor in Latin America,” venue to come.

- Report on events in progress:
  - Nov. 15th or 16th Sister Patricia McCarthy CND, a world renowned author and speaker on peace issues, will spend a day at the university if sufficient initial interest is shown.
  - Spring 2011: Carolyn Forché, poet who was Keynote Speaker at last year’s Undergraduate Commencement. Probably in February
  - Spring 2011: Rajmohan Gandhi, grandson of the Mahatma, will hopefully visit in March and be a keynote speaker for our Teach-In on Peace and Reconciliation. Perhaps a workshop on conflict resolution with role playing would work well.

- Report on Grants: One grant approved (for symposium mentioned above), one pending, and one denied. The last involved the fee for background checks for students doing service. Perhaps working with the new campus police force can mitigate such costs.

**The Office of the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs and the Division of Student Life** are pleased to announce that Andrea Mosby, a frequent and popular speaker at college campuses across the country, will provide a special address to first year students titled, *The Power of Personal DECISIONS.* Ms. Mosby’s address will take place Tuesday, November 2, from 11:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. in the DeNaples Center Ballroom.

**OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS:**
*Faculty Scholarly Achievements, 2009-10* is posted on the new ORSP web site. One hard copy will be sent to each academic department after they are received from the printer.
There have been 14 grant proposal submissions since 1 June 2010. Two letters-of-intent are also submitted and 4 new submissions are expected by the end of the month. This will bring the total submissions at the end of October to 18 which will match the number submitted in all of 2008-09. These numbers include one proposal from the PCPS grant-writing workshop and ORSP expects to be processing many of these submissions through the remainder of the year.

An IRB workshop is scheduled for 19 October 2010.

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM (CCC):**
The CCC reviewed eight course proposals at its 22 Sept 2010 meeting. Six were approved and two were returned with the request for additional information.