

TO: Faculty Senate Report

FROM: Joseph H. Dreisbach, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: May 12, 2017

RE: Provost's Report for May

1. End of the 2016-17 Academic Year

The approach of Spring commencement, brings many events that allow us to reflect on the quality and success of the teaching and learning that happens at The University of Scranton. I make a special note of a few of these events.

The Annual Celebration of Student Scholars Day which was held on 11 May 2017. Over 137 students gathered in the Atrium of the Loyola Science Center to present their scholarly work. They closed the day with a celebratory dinner where two students, Maria Begliomini and Victor Dec spoke on their TIPS project (Telehealth Intervention Program for Seniors) which was mentored by Dr. Bill Miller, Faculty Specialist in the Department of Human Resources and Health Administration. I thank all faculty mentors who committed time to guide this student work. This is an outstanding commitment to teaching.

On Friday, 26 May 2017, the annual Class Night Awards program will recognize undergraduate students who demonstrated exemplary performance and accomplishments. This is a most impressive event and the students' stories are truly remarkable. The event is open to the public and I encourage members to consider attending. It is well worth the effort. Excellence award for the graduate students are made at commencement. The picnic held immediately after the Graduate Commencement ceremonies provide a wonderful opportunity to meet the graduates and their families. One will be struck by the diversity of the graduates. I encourage all attend.

2. Admissions and the Class of 2021

Admissions numbers for the entering class in fall 2017 (Class of 2021) are in the vicinity of 910, somewhat lower than hoped. At this time, the Office of Admission continues to communicate with students who were admitted to the University but have not confirmed and have not withdrawn their application. Because many of our AJCU competitors experienced similar enrollments, i.e. less than their target numbers, Admissions will must also focus on protecting these confirmation numbers from schools who will seek to draw additional enrollments. Over the next few weeks, we will examine the data and survey results to determine what dynamics impacted recruiting numbers at Scranton and its competitors.

The challenges facing recruiting are going to be very long-term ones and will require action at a variety of levels. It is necessary to examine our academic programs to ensure that these are attractive to potential students. Also, we will engage in regular review of new program opportunities, as well as examining how to reallocate resources to support development of these new programs, along with investment in existing programs with potential to attract students.

3. Clarification about EPII Implementation

Regarding the existing administrative approval for EPII implementation. The administration has endorsed the implementation of the EPW component of EPII for students entering in fall 2017, ie. For the Class of 2021. The expectation is that the remaining EPII components, i.e. EPO and EPD will be implemented for the class entering in fall 2018, i.e. the Class of 2022 which will be the first class with full EPII curricular components as a requirement. Final administrative approval to implement EPO and EPD components for the class entering in fall 2018 will be made only after it becomes clear as to how the EPO and EPD goals and objectives will be achieved within a curricular structure, and what resources will be required to successfully achieve that implementation.

At this time, it seems that the Senate focus on curricular structure should be replaced by a focus on developing faculty enthusiasm for the pedagogies required to lead students to the EPII learning outcomes. These will be the faculty who will lead EPII development to some type of curricular structure. The administration is fully prepared to continue committing resources to this development.

4. Provost's Academic Policy and Compliance Committee (APCC)

Global Competence Credential. Dr. Ledford-Miller described a collaborative effort involving Student Formation and Campus Life, to establish recognition for students who engage in substantive activities in global education. Members on the group include: Student Allison DiCarlo, Noelle Drozdick, Anitra McShea, Linda Ledford-Miller, Fr. John Sivalon, Susan Trussler, Richard Walsh, and Dan West. The Credential document is being modified with the expectation that it will be made available in the 2017-18 academic year. A final document will be promulgated in fall 2017.

Policy on I and IP grade completion. A policy that provides a schedule for deadlines to complete I and IP grades was approved. The document is provided to the Faculty Senate APC for its review and comment.

Calendar for 2018-19. A calendar for the 2018-19 academic year has been reviewed and will be presented by the Calendar Committee. The proposal has no major changes, for regular sessions, from the 2017-2018 accepted calendar.

5. A Note of Appreciation for Faculty Work in AY 2016-17.

There are certainly many challenges that the Faculty Senate addressed in AY 2016-17. There will be more of these challenges in the next academic year, and in the years thereafter. But I ask you all to recognize the wonderful accomplishments that happen every day, in every classroom and laboratory on our campus. We cannot forget those stories of success that happen when faculty engage groups of students and individuals. We need to celebrate that. Thank you all for that great work in your teaching, your service, and your scholarly endeavors.

6. Middle States Self-Study:

The Middle States Self-Study is proceeding according to plan. We had a very successful visit from Dr. Ellie Fogarty, our Middle States liaison officer, who congratulated the Steering Committee co-chairs on the excellence of the Self-Study Design submitted in March and who seemed particularly enthusiastic about our including Ignatian discernment as part of the self-study process. On the basis of her comments, the Steering Committee made slight revisions to the Design. These include:

- updated information regarding the presidential transition

- the addition to the Introduction of a concluding paragraph entitled “Going Forward,” which reinforces our intent to use the Self-Study process for ongoing and continuous improvement and also to inform our strategic planning process(es)
- a revision of common question #1, where we’ve changed the question “...does the University meet the Standards for Accreditation...” to “...*how* does the University meet the Standards for Accreditation...” This change is intended to shift us to a more affirmative approach as encouraged by Dr. Fogarty – we should begin with the assumption that we do meet the standards for accreditation.
- addition of a list of Working Group members. Thus, the 19 members of the Steering Committee have recruited 46 members of the campus community to serve on eight Working Groups. These broadly representative groups include 20 faculty coming from all colleges and the library, 4 students, and 22 staff and administrators from every Division of the University. In all, almost 70 members of the campus community are directly engaged in the Self-Study process as members or support staff for these committees, and many more people will serve as resource people before the process is complete.

After final review by the Coordinating Committee, Cabinet, and Deans, we will submit the final Draft to Dr. Fogarty for final approval. In the meantime, the Steering Committee is preparing for the next stage of the Self-Study by meeting with representatives of Institutional Research, as well as with the Executive Director of the Jesuit Center to continue work on Ignatian discernment in the Self-Study.

A last note from the Steering Committee co-chairs: One of the hallmarks of our Jesuit tradition, as Fr. Patrick Rogers reminds us, is gratitude, and we are most grateful to all those who are devoting hours of time to this important work, certainly the Steering Committee and those who have volunteered for the Working Groups, but also those who have supported us during the process to date: the Provost, Associate Provost and CFO, for providing necessary resources, our Communications Committee and our Data/Technology Committee, and all the members of the Board who met with Dr. Fogarty during her visit.

7. **Fellowships and Scholarships:**

Stephen Gadowski who is completing a Postbaccalaureate Intramural Research Training Award at the NIH and who will attend the Medical University in South Carolina to pursue an MD degree, accepted an offer into the **NIH Oxcam Scholars Program** to pursue a Ph.D. degree in England. (He will either study at Oxford or Cambridge)

Cara Anzulewicz is a third-year neuroscience major with minors in English, Spanish, philosophy, and biochemistry, received the **Gilman Scholarship** and the **Global Korean Scholarship**, both of which are supporting her study at Sogang University in South Korea during Spring 2017.

8. **Alpha Sigma Nu:**

Sixty-nine students were inducted into Alpha Sigma Nu, the national honor society for students in Jesuit colleges and universities, at a ceremony held on April 2nd. Mary Engel, Ph.D., was presented with the Edward Gannon, S.J. Teacher of the Year Award.

9. **Curriculum:**

New Program:

Advanced Certificate in Applied Behavioral Analysis

Date Posted

1/7/17

New Course:

PHIL 401J: Philosophy, Politics, Economics	1/13/17
ESPC 566: Applied Educational Research	12/19/16

Program Change:

Chemistry	2/14/17
SJLA Program Revisions	1/13/17
RN to BSN reduce Science Credits	11/10/16

Course Change:

FIN 583: Investment Analysis	2/24/17
FREN 333: Practicum	2/14/17
ITAL 333: Practicum	2/14/17
GERM 333: Practicum	2/14/17
CHEM 370: Instrumental Analysis	2/14/17
COMM 320: News Reporting	9/12/16
EXSC 380: Internship in Exercise Science	10/27/16

Course Deletion:

PS 220: Ideologies	3/4/17
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10. College Updates:**College of Arts and Sciences**

- Nearly 1,000 students making up 72 high school teams from across the country participated in the two-day East Super Regional Robotics Competition in March.
- The department of Physics and Electrical Engineering hosted the annual high school competition that focus on physics and its application in engineering.
- Ten students, five faculty members and one alumna that presented research projects and led workshop sessions at the Eastern Psychological Association's annual meeting in Boston.
- The Mathematic Department hosted the 10th annual Math Bee on April 27th. The Bee is a calculus-based competition primarily for both high schooler but we have a division for our students as well. This year we had about 75 high school student registered.

Kania School of Management

- On April 19th KSOM hosted the Henry George Lecture. Robert Stavins, Ph.D., Albert Pratt Professor of Business and Government, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University presented "Climate Policy in the Age of Trump: An Economic Perspective.
- On April 29th KSOM conducted it 2nd Business Leader Hall of Fame Dinner. Four alumni who became prominent business leaders: Susan Swain ('76), co-chief executive officer and president of C-SPAN; educator Katherine Reilly ('53); Theodore Jadick ('61), vice chairman of Heidrick and Struggles; and former publisher of the *Scranton Times-Tribune* George Lynett, Esq. ('71).

Weinberg Memorial Library

- Special Collections will be exhibiting recent Faculty Scholarship, submitted by faculty members, in the Heritage Room during the month of May. Most of the submissions are added to the permanent collection. During the month of June, in conjunction with the Alumni Reunion, Special Collections will exhibit books by alumni authors ranging in date from the early 1940s to the present. The exhibit will continue through the summer.

- The Weinberg Memorial Library recently published online 570 primary source documents digitized from the Lackawanna Historical Society's Scranton Family Papers collection. The materials include 423 letters from the office of George W. Scranton, dated 1850-1854, as well as 147 additional letters and documents related to Joseph H. Scranton, Selden T. Scranton, George W. Scranton, and William W. Scranton, dating from 1841 through 1874.

The documents were digitized by student, faculty, and community volunteers from the University's Department of History, the Royals Historical Society, and the Scranton Public Library, using an Internet Archive Scribe Station borrowed from the State Library of Pennsylvania. Transcriptions and descriptive information for the George W. Scranton Letters were provided by Lackawanna Historical Society volunteers Dennis, Sharleen, and Scott Martin. All materials are now publicly available online in the Library's digital collections (www.scranton.edu/library/digitalcollections).