

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Tracy M. Stewart, Ph.D.
Interim Provost/Senior VPAA

DATE: February 6, 2026

SUBJECT: Academic Affairs Report for February 2026

Provost & Associate Provost

- Summer Grants and Clavius Funding
A call for proposals was sent out in February. Applications should be submitted electronically to provost@scranton.edu or by campus mail to the Associate Provost's Office no later than March 2nd.
- Presidential Fellowship for Summer Research Awards
A call for proposals was sent out in January. Applications should be submitted to the Associate Provost's Office by February 27th.
- Scranton Prep Tuition Scholarship
A call for applications was sent out in January. Applications should be submitted to the Associate Provost's Office by March 2nd.

Planning and the New Strategic Plan

- Following an eighteen-month process led by the University Planning Committee (UPC), the Board of Trustees approved a new University-wide strategic plan at its December meeting. I am very proud of the work that has been done to develop this plan, and grateful for the contributions of the faculty, staff, and student representatives to the UPC who shouldered this heavy lift with dedication and wisdom. I am also grateful to the many persons who provided input in spring 2024 to guide the development of the plan, those who shared feedback to the draft plan, and proposed updates to our mission and vision, in fall 2025. This input led to refinements including the addition of more detail about the implementation of the new ICC within several plan goals.
- In addition to the strategic plan itself, the Board also approved updates to our Mission statement, and a new Vision statement. Throughout the planning process, the UPC and members of our community consistently emphasized the importance of our mission in grounding our planning. In considering this fundamental relationship, the UPC reflected on the current mission statement, and findings from our 2018 Mission Priority Examen and 2019 Middle States Self-Study. Although the fundamental aspects of the statement remain unchanged, the committee proposed two additions to the statement to make explicit our commitment to the common good, and to the formation of students in the Catholic, Jesuit tradition. The Office of Planning & Institutional Effectiveness is preparing a variety of guidance and resource materials for members of our community as

we move ahead to implement the plan. A new web site and electronic media are also in final stages of production and will be shared with University community soon.

Middle States Accreditation

- Our 2028 Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE) Self-Study evaluation is now underway. Led by Dr. Sarah Kenehan and Dr. Mike Jenkins, Steering Committee Co-Chairs, the process will take us through the 2027-2028 academic year. This spring, the recently appointed Steering Committee will officially begin its work, including selecting members of accreditation standards-based working groups; developing focused research questions to guide working group research and reflection; and gathering preliminary documentation and evidence across all seven standards. The Co-Chairs will be providing detailed updates to each of the representative governance groups and Board of Trustees during the semester. In late March, we will host a representative from Middle States on campus for a one-day visit to discuss our Self-Study Design, a document describing our goals and process to complete the study, MSCHE expectations, and other study plans. This visit will include meetings with the Steering Committee, President, representatives from the Board of Trustees, and open forums for faculty, staff, and students. More details will be shared in the weeks ahead. Read more about the self-study process, timeline, and other details by visiting www.scranton.edu/selfstudy. Questions and comments, including expressions of interest to serve on one of the Working Groups, may be sent to Dr. Jenkins or Dr. Kenehan.
- We are also monitoring recent activities within the U.S. Department of Education related to higher education accreditation and work underway within MSCHE to review and update its current *Standards for Accreditation*. These changes are slated to go into effect this coming summer; however, the University will continue to use the current [14th Edition of the Standards](#) for our self-study review.

Assessment

- Work continues to implement our Comprehensive Plan for Student Learning Assessment, under the leadership of the Office of Educational Assessment (OEA) and its director, Dr. Vanessa Jensen. In addition to Tara Fay, who continues another term as CAS Faculty Assessment fellow, Dr. Robert Giambatista and Dr. Paul Datti have joined as Fellows from the KSOM and LCHS respectively. To be sure the OEA is representative of all faculty, and better connect the important work done there regarding information literacy assessment to our overall assessment structure, this year one of the two CAS Faculty Assessment Fellows positions was reassigned to the Weinberg Memorial Library, a position that has been filled by Donna Witek, professor and information literacy coordinator in the WML. Dr. Maria Squire, GE Assessment Coordinator, rounds out the OEA team. The team recently hosted a half-day Assessment Summit on January 13, bringing together members of the Educational Assessment Advisory Committee, deans, and Provost's office leadership to review recent assessment activities, and prioritize opportunities for future assessment activities and collaboration. The group also conducted a SWOT analysis of our assessment structure, which will be used to inform priorities and ways to further improve. In addition to other activities, members of the OEA and EAAC are considering recent activities and future plans to assess, and potentially update, our

current Institutional Learning Outcomes, including alignment with the new ICC, and investigating opportunities to better use BrightSpace to support assessment at the course and program level. Work is also underway to compile documentation for our MSCHE self-study evidence inventory for Standard 5 (Educational Effectiveness Assessment). Faculty are asked to be sure to provide assessment reporting and other documentation to ensure our resources are as complete as possible.

- Efforts to fulfill our assessment schedule for the current general education curriculum continue, including review of D attribute assessment reports submitted by faculty during the 2024-2025 academic year. The GE attributes that were assessed included: FYW, FYS, FYOC/FYDT, E, and Q. Fall 2025-Spring 2026 assessment is focused on the remaining GE attributes including S, D, CH, CL, CF, CI, and CA. A call has recently gone out to faculty teaching courses with these attributes during the Spring 2026 semester. Looking forward, the OEA is beginning to plan for assessment of the new ICC. The OEA held a fall event to assist faculty members with linking their course student learning outcomes to the new ICC attribute learning outcomes. A meeting to discuss logistics for implementing an ICC assessment plan will be scheduled in early Spring and will bring together leadership from the Faculty Senate, the curriculum committees, the GE review committee, and the OEA.

College of Arts & Sciences

- All full-time faculty searches are busy with on campus interviews this month.
- Dean Barry, Associate Dean Marena, and Assistant Dean Hunter have submitted proposed FY27 budgets to Finance in January after completing a five-month zero-based budgeting process. We appreciate all the fine work of our department chairs, program directors, and administrative assistants over this fall. We will communicate back to said departments and programs after we hear back from Finance.
- The Assessment Committee for the College of Arts and Sciences (ACCAS) has now met twice. They began with a full assessment of each of our 47 programs PLOs. Their goal is to determine what the updated PLOs are for each program, how these PLOs map to ILOs and SLOs, and to establish a schedule to assess 2 PLOs per year. They will then move to assessing artifacts and rubrics for each program. By random roll of D20, Chemistry, Philosophy, Political Science, and Military Science have been reviewed and suggestions for additional work on their PLOs have been communicated with the departments. The committee is now gathering PLO information from Math/Mathematical Sciences, Biology, Communication and Media, Theology/Religious Studies, History, and Psychology next. Once the PLOs are worked through, they will be shared with Kate Yerkes to retain institutional effectiveness documentation.
- Impact reports have been completed for the following programs during Fall 2025: Women and Gender Studies, Peace & Justice Studies, Catholic Studies, Asian studies, and Latin American Studies. The math department also underwent a program review in the fall. The education department has submitted applications to recertify all existing programs with the Pennsylvania Department of Education. They have been notified that some programs have been certified and are awaiting word about others this semester. Also, the following programs will undergo a program review this spring: English and Theater, Philosophy, Psychology, Political Science/Public Policy, and Biochemistry Cellular and Molecular

Biology. As these program reviews/impact reports are completed, the Dean and Associate Dean meet with the respective chair/program director to provide feedback for the next steps.

- Curriculum Committee for CAS (CCCAS) anticipates meeting in February. Nevertheless, the Dean's Office is receiving proposals for the GE to ICC conversion. To date, we have received 22 capstone proposals, 10 CIV, 3DC, and 3DJ. Moreover, we have received 3 programs with complete grids and 62 additional submissions from many departments. We await further clarity from the Provost and faculty leadership about timelines.
- Great things happening in CAS:
 - a. Dr. Marc Shapiro's (Theology and Religious Studies) book, *Renewing the Old, Sanctifying the New: The Unique Vision of Rav Kook* (Littman Library; Liverpool University Press) was a finalist in the Rabbi Sacks Books Prize, 2025.
 - b. For the second consecutive year, a manuscript co-authored by Dan Haggerty (Philosophy), Dana Hermanson, and Doug Boyle (Accounting) has been recognized with the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Ethics Feature of the Year award. "Fraud and the Capital Vices, Pride, Envy and Greed," applies philosophy to help understand and mitigate corporate fraud.
 - c. Under Dr. Rafeiza Khan's (Biology) mentorship, one of her students, Nolan Ramanujulu, has coauthored two publications in scholarly outlets:
 - i. Sparks, J. A., Sun, L., Chin, S., **Ramanjulu, N.**, Wen, J., Gilroy, S., Blancaflor, E. B., & **Khan, B. R. (2026)**. *Mutations adjacent to the nucleotide-binding cleft of Arabidopsis thaliana ACTIN7 confer resistance to the actin-disrupting compound latrunculin B*. **Journal of Experimental Botany**, 77(1), 212–225. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jxb/eraf346>
 - ii. **Ramanjulu, N and Khan Bibi R. (2025)**. *Recombinant expression of Taq DNA polymerase using pBluescript SK(+) and chromatography-free purification: A cost-effective strategy for low-resource laboratories*. **Journal of Advances in Biology and Biotechnology**, 28(7), Article 2660. <https://doi.org/10.9734/jabb/2025/v28i72660>
 - d. Drs. Kukukai Hozumi and Nathaniel Frissell (Physics and Engineering) received an award from the Office of Naval Research totaling \$599,981, titled "Crowdsourced Observations for Ionospheric Model Validation and a Diagnostic Approach for Forecasting Equatorial Spread F."

Kania School of Management

- KSOM has been reaccredited for another 6 years.
- The Business Analytics online graduate program is ranked 16th by US News and World Report.
- The Finance online program is ranked 14th by US News and World Report.
- In 2025, U.S. News & World Report ranked the undergraduate Business Analytics program 26th, the Accounting program 41st, and the Finance program 43rd.
- Based on research published in leading accounting education journals, our Ph.D. program is ranked No. 1 globally for research productivity, and the accounting department is ranked No. 3. Professor Douglas Boyle is tied as the top-ranked education researcher.
- Following the adoption of the university's strategic plan, we are finalizing our new 6-year strategic plan to align with the new 6-year accreditation cycle.

- We are also revising our learning goals for our undergraduate program and our MBA program.
- We have created a 3-credit course where students cover Advanced Excel, Power BI and Python.
- We began a program with Scranton Prep to teach business courses online synchronously to students. The program also allows students from other schools, so far, Scranton High, to participate. Classes are recorded so that if students have extracurricular activities that conflict, they can view the class at another time.
- We have created a 200-level personal finance course open to all students.
- 2024 graduates from our undergraduate programs reported a mean annual salary of \$68,100.
- 2024 graduates from our graduate programs reported a mean annual salary of \$82,932.
- We have also designed a student satisfaction exit survey for the undergraduate program and all graduate programs.
- We have started our 12th class of the Geisinger MBA program, and we are currently recruiting for class 13.
- Lackawanna and Wayne County residents, whose households earned \$67,000 or less in 2025, can receive free assistance in completing and filing their federal, state, and local tax returns from University of Scranton accounting students through the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program
- A paper entitled "Fraud and the Capital Vices, Pride, Envy and Greed," co-authored by Dan Haggerty, Dana Hermanson, and Douglas Boyle, has been recognized with the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA) Ethics Feature of the Year award. The paper applies philosophy to help understand and mitigate corporate fraud.

Leahy College of Health Sciences

- The Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program (OTD) Received Initial Accreditation. At its December 2025 meeting, the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) reviewed the Report of On-Site Evaluation (ROSE) regarding the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program at the University of Scranton and voted to Grant a Status of Accreditation for a period of 7 years.
- Curricular Innovation: New Program Proposal submitted to FSCC for Stand-alone MS in OT. A 74 credit (2.5 year) post-baccalaureate master's degree program creates a new entry option to an occupational therapy degree. The new program is built on our well-established and highly regarded MS in Occupational Therapy 5-year program; the facility, labs, equipment and materials are already in place with little need to expand. The program can be marketed to current University students and students completing a BS elsewhere who wish to pursue occupational therapy as a career, and are interested in an efficient, high-quality, graduate-level professional program. We believe the MS to be the most appealing option for potential students because it can be completed more quickly and less costly than the OTD (generally 3 ½ years) while achieving the required preparation for full credentialing. Both degrees are recognized for entry level practice and licensing in all 50 states. Our geographically closest competitors, King's College and Binghamton, are offering only OTD degrees as full-time programs, thus affording a market opportunity for this new MS degree.
- Curricular Innovation: Proposals submitted for two new tracks in the BS in Public Health.
 - a. Pre-med track in the BS in Public Health. Adding the Pre-Med/Pre-Health track is an attractive option for prospective students looking to attend medical school or other

- allied health professional programs after earning their undergraduate degree. This track incorporates courses required for admission to medical school, most physician assistant programs and other graduate allied health professional programs.
- b. 3-year track for BS in Public Health. The 3-year track is geared to two groups of students: 1) students desiring to complete their undergraduate experience in 3 years for any number of reasons; and 2) students wanting to participate in The University of Scranton's 3+3 accelerated law programs with partner law schools.

Weinberg Memorial Library

- Open Access Publishing Agreements
 - a. The Library has secured multiple “read & publish” Open Access agreements that expand journal access and waive Open Access publishing fees for University faculty serving as lead authors. Current agreements include Cambridge University Press, American Chemical Society, Springer Nature, Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), and Elsevier.
 - b. Additional details are available at: <https://guides.library.scranton.edu/OApublishing>
- Heritage Room Exhibits (Spring 2026)
 - a. Early 20th-Century Celebrity Portraits by P. W. Costello - Weinberg Library Special Collections recently acquired a collection of pen-and-ink portraits by Scranton artist Patrick W. Costello, drawn between 1905 and 1930. A selection of theatrical, sports, and cultural figures is currently on display through April 23.
 - b. Banknotables - An exhibit of commemorative banknotes and art pieces created by alumnus and former Trustee Robert Bednar '69, founder of Naples Bank Note Company. The exhibit highlights currency-inspired art used to support charitable fundraising efforts and runs through April 23.
- Media Resources and Education Laboratory
 - a. Renovations to the Media Resources and Education Laboratory on the 3rd floor are complete, and the space is now open to students. DVDs and Education Laboratory materials are available for browsing and checkout through the Library Services Desk.
- MISO Survey
 - a. The Library and IT will jointly administer the MISO (Measuring Information Service Outcomes) Survey during Spring semester. The optional, anonymous survey will be open from February 19 through March 2, 2026, and is tailored for faculty, staff, and students. Results will inform future Library and IT planning.
- Environmental Art Show
 - a. Call for Art: The 2026 Environmental Art Show theme is Nature Reimagined. Submissions are open to students, staff, faculty, and alumni. Digital submissions are due April 2, 2026.
 - b. Submission link: https://form.jotform.com/wml_admin/environmental-art-show
 - c. Exhibit Dates: April 13–22, 2026, Charles Kratz Heritage Room, 5th Floor.

- Jay Nathan, Ph.D. Visiting Scholar Lecture Series
 - a. The Ninth Presentation, featuring Finland, was held on January 15, 2026. Speakers included Her Excellency Leena-Kaisa Mikkola, Ambassador of Finland to the United States, and Petri Koikkalainen, Ph.D., Senior Specialist for Science and Higher Education, Finland Ministry of Education and Culture.
 - b. The event recording is available at:
<https://www.scranton.edu/academics/wml/events-and-programs/jay-nathan/index.shtml>
- IDEA Center
 - a. The IDEA Center is launching an IDEA Center Advisory Committee composed of faculty, staff, students, and community members.
 - b. A list of faculty recommendations from Dean George Aulisio has been forwarded to the Senate Executive Committee for Senate ratification. The committee is open to accepting additional faculty who are interested in serving.
 - c. Committee Charge: The IDEA Center Advisory Committee supports the advancement and growth of the IDEA Center by fostering partnerships, promoting community and campus engagement, and advising on programming, services, and strategic initiatives. The Committee provides recommendations to the Director of the IDEA Center and to the Dean of the Weinberg Memorial Library, who serves as its administrative head.
- Schemel Forum
 - a. The Spring 2026 Schemel Forum program is complete. All events are open to students, staff, and faculty. A fee applies only to the wine education program.
 - b. Registration is available via RoyalSync or by emailing:
SchemelForum@scranton.edu
https://royalsync.scranton.edu/events?search_word=schemel
 - c. The full brochure can be found here:
<https://www.scranton.edu/academics/wml/schemel/index.shtml>
 - d. Spring 2026 Programming Highlights
 - Feb. 27, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. – Advancing Decision Sciences with Artificial Intelligence
 - Mar. 6, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. – Commemorating the American Revolution 250 Years Later
 - Mar. 26, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. – The Federal Government Today: Institutional Pressures and the Way Forward
 - Apr. 9, 6:00 p.m. – George Gershwin: Music and Healing
 - Apr. 30, 5:30 p.m. – Unveiling Niccolò Betti’s Madonna and Child with the Young St. John the Baptist
 - May 5, 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. – Wise Words: Ancient Egypt’s Wisdom Tradition

- May 29, 5:30 p.m. – Vin et Vues: Loire Valley and its Wines
 - (Fee required; must be 21+)
 - e. Faculty interested in teaching a Fall 2026 Schemel course should submit a proposed title and course description to Dean George Aulisio by March 13, 2026. Proposals will be reviewed by the Schemel Advisory Committee.
- Hope Horn Art Gallery
 - a. The Hope Horn Art Gallery was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Creative Asset Program to support Spring and Fall 2026 exhibitions.
 - b. Spring 2026 Exhibits:
 - The Anthracite Coal Industry of Northeastern Pennsylvania, 1933–1946
Feb. 2–Mar. 13, 2026
Panel discussion and public reception: Feb. 6, 2026
 - Art Educators Make Art: PAEA Northeast Juried Exhibition
Apr. 7–May 8, 2026
Panel discussion and public reception: Apr. 10, 2026
 - University of Scranton Student Show (Online)
Available beginning May 2026
 - Additional exhibit details are available at:
<https://www.scranton.edu/academics/hope-horn-gallery/index.shtml>

Curriculum Updates

	Date Posted
New Program	
MS OT Program Proposal	1/20/2026
Program Revision	
MSHI Accelerated Program	2/3/2026
MSHI	2/3/2026
Course Revision	
HADM 120 Revision to PUBH 120 Identifier from Final	1/20/2026
KNES 212 Nutrition in Exercise and Sport	2/3/2026
SLP 581A Residency Field Placement I	2/3/2026
SLP 581B SLH Assessment & Intervention I	2/3/2026
SLP 581C SLH Assessment & Intervention II	2/3/2026
HAD 581 Administrative Residency	2/3/2026
MHA Program Revision	2/3/2026
New Course	
OT 554 Research Meth MS	1/20/2026
OT 555 Res & Schol I MS	1/20/2026

OT 556 Res & Schol II MS	1/20/2026
OT 561 Intro to OT	1/20/2026
OT 562 OP MS	1/20/2026
OT 563 AOP MS	1/20/2026
OT 564 Anatomy & Human Mvt MS	1/20/2026
OT 564L Anatomy & Human Mvt MS	1/20/2026
OT 565 Neuroanatomy	1/20/2026
OT 566 Upper EXT Rehab	1/20/2026
OT 566L Upper Extremity Lab	1/20/2026
OT 567 Super & Mgt MS	1/20/2026
OT 568 Older Adult & Vision	1/20/2026
OT 570 Children & Youth I MS	1/20/2026
OT 570L Children & Youth I MS	1/20/2026
OT 571 Child & Youth II MS	1/20/2026
OT 571L Child & Youth II MS	1/20/2026
OT 572 Mental Health Practice MS	1/20/2026
OT 572L Mental Health Lab Syllabus	1/20/2026
OT 573 Phys Rehab I MS Lecture	1/20/2026
OT 573L Phys Rehab I MS Lecture	1/20/2026
OT 574 Physical Rehab Practice II	1/20/2026
OT 574L Physical Rehab II Lab MS	1/20/2026
OT 580A Level I Children & Youth Fieldwork1	1/20/2026
OT 580B Level I Mental Health Fieldwork1	1/20/2026
OT 580C Level I Physical Rehab Fieldwork1	1/20/2026
PUBH_220 Biostatistics New Course Proposal1	1/20/2026
PUBH_350 Epidemiology New Course Proposal1	1/20/2026

Grid Revisions

BS CHS ICC	2/3/2026
BS KNES ICC	2/3/2026
BSN ICC Grid	2/3/2026

Graduate Academic and Student Services

- Graduate Assistant Information
Applications for graduate assistant positions are now open for the upcoming academic year. To support student interest and understanding of these roles, three information sessions were offered outlining assistantship responsibilities and expectations. All sessions were well attended, and an additional information session is being planned ahead of the March 1 priority deadline.

In addition to assistantship support, efforts are ongoing to strengthen graduate student engagement and community-building. A graduate student social is currently being planned for later in the spring semester.

- **Graduate Student Orientation**
Graduate student orientation, originally scheduled for January 27, was cancelled due to weather; however, a virtual orientation was successfully held on Sunday evening, February 1 and was open to both online and on-campus students. A Brightspace introduction session followed immediately afterward.
- **Technology Support for Online Faculty and Students**
Early in the spring semester, faculty and students were informed of the Technology Support Center's Help Desk hours. While 24/7 support is no longer offered for online faculty and students, the Help Desk continues to provide extended support throughout the week: Monday–Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday from noon to 6:00 p.m., ensuring access to assistance during the times it is most frequently needed.

Center for Teaching Excellence

- **Workshop Attendance**
Preparing for Spring 2026: Brightspace Updates & Microsoft Teams Overview on January 9 and 16. This workshop, offered in person and via live stream, reviewed key Brightspace features and recent updates with a focus on new tools that enhance course organization, communication, assessment, and student engagement. Participants also received an introductory overview of Microsoft Teams meetings, including how to schedule and host meetings in Brightspace using the new Microsoft Education integration. Attendance: 19 total [6 LCHS, 11 CAS, 2 Staff] Resources shared during this workshop are available in the CTE Community on Viva Engage files in the Workshop Slides and Resources folder under Spring 2026.
- **Upcoming Workshops**
Accessibility Essentials for Educational Content Our next planned workshop series will be designed to help you make documents, Brightspace content, and multimedia more accessible for all students. This workshop will provide an overview for faculty and staff, outlining steps they can take now to help meet the ADA compliance requirements under Title III for private institutions (WCAG 2.1 Level AA). Follow the CTE Community on Viva Engage for an announcement about dates. Since the live streaming option was so well received, we are working on finding a location that will provide the best experience for those joining remotely.
- **CTE Collaborative Partnerships**
 - a. **Rehab Counseling Online Training** In collaboration with Dr. BJ Cunningham, Associate Dean, LCHS, the CTE participated in providing a workshop series on January 7 and 8 for the Rehab Counseling faculty who will be developing online courses over the next several semesters. The focus of the first day was on using Quality Matters standards to ensure alignment in online course design. Day 2 focused on designing engaging, accessible online learning by combining effective

Office of Student Support & Success

- OSSS Tutoring Services: 125 tutors were employed by the OSSS (193 tutors in Fall 2024, 237 in Fall 2023). Tutors have fully transitioned from a home-grown tutoring platform to the WC Online scheduler. The former scheduler linked a student to a tutor for the entire semester. With WC Online the student can tutor 1x time or select repeat sessions.
- The OSSS is now a CRLA (College Reading and Learning Association) certified Tutor Training Program requiring 10 hours of training and 25 hours of direct instruction to become internationally certified. We have certified 70 tutors and 16 writing center consultants.
- 463 students have visited drop-in tutoring in math, chemistry, and biology (432 drop-in visits in Fall 2024, 435 in Fall 2023). The OSSS tutors 40 subjects in 157 different courses.
- Academic Coaching & Student Support: 602 academic coaching sessions held OSSS graduate assistants (685 coaching sessions in Fall 2024, 667 in Fall 2023). 87 meetings with the Student Support Specialist (53 in Fall 2024, 88 in Fall 2023). 53 meetings with Gonzaga students (45 in Fall 2024, 43 in Fall 2023).
- Students Receiving Academic Accommodations: 498 students received accommodations, 160 of them being first-year students (461 in Fall 2024, 436 in Fall 2023).
- Exams Proctored in OSSS: 2059 exams were proctored (2018 in Fall 2024, 1800 in Fall 2023)
- Disability Support Specialist: 473 individual coaching sessions (452 in Fall 2024, 465 in Fall 2023). Game Night (2x a month, special invite for students on the autism spectrum disorder and “The Hub”, a Neurodiverse ‘safe’ Space, saw an average of 15-20 students per event.
- Note-taking: 225 note-takers are employed by the OSSS (205 in Fall 2024, 121 in Fall 2023). 418 classes have note-takers (408 in Fall 2024, 315 in Fall 2023) and 181 students receive note-taking accommodations in one or more of their classes (175 in Fall 2024, 100 in Fall 2023). There were 9 courses that remained unfulfilled for note-taking accommodations (17 in Fall 2024).
- Writing Center: 14 Writing Center consultants met with 402 students holding 884 total consultations.

Study Abroad

- One hundred fifty-four students participated in study abroad in Intersession 2026. Faculty from the University of Scranton led 90 students abroad. Courses included BIOL 195 to the Galapagos Islands (15 students); HAD 595 to Brazil (6); TRS 295/ESCI 284/PUBH 384 to Uganda (7); NURS 496 to Ireland (21); OT 480 to the Dominican Republic (13); HIST 295 to Ireland and Northern Ireland (28). Additionally, study abroad partners hosted 64 Scranton students at institutions in Italy (37 students); Ireland (12); Spain (6); Japan (4); France (3); and the United Kingdom (2).
- Twenty-eight students are studying abroad for the Spring 2026 semester. They are attending programs in Spain (8 students), Italy (8); France (3); Denmark (2); Japan (2); Australia (1); Czech Republic (1); Ireland (1); Morocco (1); and the United Kingdom (1).

Fulbright

- Our May 2025 graduate and Fulbright winner, Jenyah Cunningham is spending the 2025-26 academic year teaching English in Taiwan as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.
- Three seniors submitted Fulbright applications in October 2025 as candidates for a 2026-27 Fulbright year abroad. Rebecca Doyle, a Neuroscience & Physiology major, has been selected as a semi-finalist for a Fulbright funded master's degree program in Science & Music at the University of Jyväskylä in Finland. The two students that applied for English Teaching Assistantships in Malta and Greece have not been selected to continue to the next round of the Fulbright competition. Fulbright expects to announce finalist winners in May 2026.

International Students & Scholars

- Total Students and Scholars enrolled and on Optional Practical Training: 278
- Total Student and Scholars enrolled Spring 2026: 83
- Total New Student and Scholars Spring Enrollment: 7
- Students actively enrolled are from: Afghanistan (2), Argentina (1), Bangladesh (1), Dominican Republic (2), Egypt (1), El Salvador (1), Germany (1), India (56), Ireland (3), Mexico (1), Nepal (1), Pakistan (2), Philippines (2), Saudi Arabia (7), Taiwan (1), Ukraine (1)
- Visiting Professors: Taiwan (1), Japan (1)
- International Student enrollment has been significantly impacted by Executive and Regulatory Actions under the current administration. The students' ability to successfully obtain a visa has been significantly impacted.
- University of Scranton Students participating in Post-Completion Optional Practical Training (OPT) or STEM OPT extension: 195
- Notes about OPT: These are students who have been granted authorization from USCIS to engage in practical training/employment following their academic programs' completion.
- Despite their Alumni status the University of Scranton continues to carry responsibility to oversee the non-immigrant record of the students participating in OPT. Including facilitating regular required reporting responsibilities of the student and University to DHS and advising with the STEM OPT extension application process.
- Recent Executive and Regulatory action under 2nd Trump Administration. Impacting International Students:
 - a. *Proclamation of December 16, 2025 Expands U.S. Travel Ban Effective January 1, 2026.* A presidential proclamation issued on December 16, 2025 modifies and expands the U.S. travel ban, updating the lists of countries subject to full and partial entry restrictions, effective January 1, 2026. [See NAFSA's page.](#)
 - b. *DOS Expands Vetting to H-1B and H-4 Applicants.* On December 3, 2025, DOS announced that it will expand enhanced social media vetting to H-1B and H-4 nonimmigrants effective December 15, 2025, instructing applicants to "adjust the privacy settings on all of their social media profiles to 'public.'" [See NAFSA's page.](#)
 - c. *DOS Reminds J Program Sponsors of Exchange Visitor Monitoring and Documenting Requirements.* NAFSA transcribed a November 20, 2025

Department of State (DOS) email sent to remind J Exchange Visitor Program sponsors of regulatory monitoring and documenting requirements. [See NAFSA's page.](#)