

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: December 14, 2018

RE: Academic Affairs Report for December 2018

1. Kania School of Management Dean Search

As announced earlier in the semester, the search for the KSOM Dean is in full force. We have secured the services of Academic Search, Inc. to assist in this search. The primary consultants from Academic Search were on campus in October to meet with the search committee and to hear from constituencies about the needs for this position. This was extremely helpful in putting together the position profile and advertisement for the position, which is now posted on the Academic Search website: www.academic-search.com

The Search Committee and I will be meeting semi-finalists in January. We expect to have finalists on campus for interviews in late February or March.

2. Strategic Enrollment Planning Update

We continue to make good progress on our Strategic Enrollment Planning process and are currently in the phase of assessment of data and situational analyses. Lew Sanbourne, our consultant from Ruffalo Noel Levitz, was back on campus on November 13th and 14th to meet with the SEP Council and each Working Group. Each Working Group has made significant progress to understand their specific areas and set the stage for strategic initiatives. As a reminder, our Working Groups are: 1) Marketing/Admissions; 2) Undergraduate programs; 3) Graduate and other programs; 4) Student Support; and, 5) Finance/Financial Aid. In addition, we have decided to establish additional specific groups to focus on enrollment strategies for transfer students and international partnerships.

3. Graduate Assistantships

The allocations for 2019-2020 have been conveyed to the deans, as indicated at previous Faculty Senate meetings this fall that we would do so earlier in the academic year this time. The deans will work with the departments and program directors to award assistantships strategically.

4. Faculty Searches

Four searches have been completed and departments continue to search and bring candidates to campus for interviews.

5. Rank and Tenure

The Board on Rank and Tenure will begin formal meetings on January 11, 12 and 18 to review the applications of eighteen candidates. (9 candidates seeking promotion to Professor, 1 candidate seeking promotion to Associate, 5 candidates seeking promotion to Associate and tenure, and 3 candidates seeking tenure.)

6. Middle States Self Study

In October, the co-chairs shared the full Self-Study Report with the campus and key bodies for further broad review. Many campus colleagues made valuable comments and their suggestions are incorporated into the November draft sent to the Board. On November 8-9, we welcomed Dr. Brennan O'Donnell, President of Manhattan College and our Middle States Team Chair, who met with representatives from among the faculty, staff, students, and administration. We are happy to report that he made many positive comments about the Report and the Self-Study process, as well as giving some suggestions for improvement, which we have implemented. The President's Cabinet endorsed the Report recommendations on November 13 and the Board of Trustees endorsed the report and recommendations at its November meeting.

7. Intersession Grants 2019:

The Faculty Development Board has awarded Intersession grants to eleven faculty members from eight departments.

Dr. Maureen Carroll	<i>Geometry In Motion</i>
Dr. Will Cohen	<i>Aarhus 1964 and the Dialogue between Orthodox and Oriental Orthodox Christians</i>
Eleni Gousgounis	<i>Why do new futures contracts succeed or fail? The case of the FTSE Emerging Index Futures (EMF) contract.</i>
Dr. Christian Haw	<i>The Development of an Institutional Memorandum Toward Proposing a Prison Education Initiative, entailing an Associate's and eventual Bachelor's Degree, through The University of Scranton</i>
Dr. Hengameh Hosseini	<i>Misinformation in Youtube Videos about Sarcopenia and Frailty in Older Americans: Content and Network Analysis</i>
Dr. Andrew LaZella	<i>Status-Nominalism and The Problem of Universals</i>
Dr. Mohammad Maktoomi	<i>Dual-Band RF Energy Harvesting Circuit for IOTs</i>
Dr. Sufyan Mohammed	<i>The Evolution of Social Media Use by Corporate India over the Past Decade: How the Top 500 Companies in India Utilize Digital & Social Media for Customer Relationship Management (CRM) & Media Relations</i>
Dr. Masood Otarod	<i>Factorization model: Dimensionally reduced dispersion model for the performance assessment of packed catalytic reactors.</i>
Dr. Ann Pang-White	<i>Knowledge, Virtue, and Akrasia in Early Confucian Ethics</i>
Dr. Janice Voltzow	<i>Structure and Function of Abalone, Delicious, and Beautiful Snails</i>

8. Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

The following faculty have been approved for sabbatical during the 2019-2020 academic year:

Academic Year 2019-2020

Michael Azar
Barbara Buxton
Jennifer Kaschak
Susan Mendez
Virginia Picchiotti
Satya Prattipati
Jill Warker

Fall 2019

Karen Brady
Robert Giambatista
Jakub Jasinski
Lawrence Kennedy
Daniel Mahoney
Adam Pratt
Patrick Tully
Loreen Wolfer

Spring 2020

Steven Dougherty
Michael Fennie
Daniel Haggerty
John Norcross
Christos Pargianas
David Salerno
Robert Spalletta
Michael Sulzinski

9. International Studies and Scholarly Services

On November 12, 2018, The University of Scranton joined many campuses from across the nation in celebrating the International Education Week. The International Education Week is a joint initiative of the U.S. Department of State and the U.S. Department of Education with the goal to promote programs that prepare Americans for a global environment and attract future leaders from abroad to study, learn, and exchange experiences.

On that day, the International Student and Scholar Services Office hosted about 80 students and teachers from The Lutheran Academy and the Howard Gardner MI Charter School. Graduate MBA student, Ingrid Maria Serrano Bran, gave a very engaging presentation about her country, El Salvador. The audience were able to sample some pupusas and Quesadilla Salvadorean as part of the refreshment menu. This community outreach program, which began almost 15 years ago, is one of the ways in which the University shares its diversity with elementary and middle-school children in the Scranton area.

10. Office of Educational Assessment (OEA)

Program & Institutional Learning Outcome Assessment: We have strengthened our Comprehensive Plan for Assessment of Student Learning and have updated our website with completed assessment plans and reports. Now that our processes for collecting assessment documents have become routine, there is a need for discussion about which assessment documents will be posted publicly and which will be posted internally. The Provost Assessment Scholars conducted orientation during the weekend of November 3 and 4th. Students will conduct 5 peer focus groups for campus stakeholders in the spring.

General Education (GE) Assessment: There are three projects currently underway to conduct direct assessment in GE courses bearing the FYS, E, and Q designations. Recent indirect assessment evidence for GE is now available from the 2018 NSSE survey and will be disseminated to the Assessment Advisory Committee (AAC) and the Faculty Senate. Dr. David Marx, interim GE coordinator, attended the OEA team meeting on October 31, 2018 where there was discussion about how GE curricular structures inhibit effective assessment of GE learning outcomes. Prof. Donna Witek of the Library presented assessment results related to Information Literacy at the September meeting of the AAC

Assessment Resources: Six programs in 4 PCPS departments will collect and score assessment artifacts in the Via by Watermark assessment platform this fall. The system automates collection and scoring of artifacts, as well as aggregation of scores. The rationale for the targeted rollout of the system is to save faculty time and to accelerate the use of results for decision-making. Any other departments/programs interested in a demonstration of the system can contact OEA.

Communication & Faculty Development: In October, OEA published a newsletter in which results of assessment projects were reported. OEA is planning at least two Friday offerings for its Intersession Assessment Institute. One offering will be a refresher on program assessment and the other will be related to assignment design.

11. College Updates

Panuska College of Professional Studies

- The leadership of AllOne Foundation, along with The University of Scranton and representatives of numerous health care, education and philanthropic entities announced a major, regional initiative to significantly enhance the service delivery system and minimize the service gaps for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and their families living in Northeastern and North Central Pennsylvania in late September, 2018.

The Autism Collaborative Centers of Excellence (ACCE) was formed to deliver a full array of services and supports for individuals with ASD, from early intervention to adult services. The University of Scranton was named as the Executive Hub. This grant is a multi-year grant with a \$7 million initiative to significantly enhance the service delivery system and minimize the service gaps for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Our hub will be located on 811-813 Mulberry Street.

- The 17th Annual US Conference on disABILITY was the best ever with a focus on assistive technology. Microsoft and Apple representatives were on campus. The conference was free to the public and had about 160 people during the day in attendance. The evening student presentation held about 500 students where Bill Ziegler and Bern Gavlick presented. <https://vimeo.com/270241645>
- This year the PCPS freshman class collected approximately 4,800 children's books for the underserved population. Each freshman writes a special message in each book that will then be given to the recipient. Father McIlhenny will perform the blessing on December 6 at 3 p.m. outside of the Kane Forum.
- The Ceremony of Remembrance took place on November 16, 2018 where occupational therapy students, physical therapy students and PCPS students who utilized the Gross Anatomy lab over summer and fall academic semesters reflected on their learning and the meaning of serving others.

12. Curriculum Approvals:

New Courses

	Date Posted
DS 201: Introduction to Data Science	10/19/18
DS 362: Data-Driven Knowledge Discovery	10/19/18
NURS 598: Exec Nurse Leadership Practicum	10/10/18

Course Deletion

PT Internship III	4/12/18
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Program Change

Strategic Communication	10/4/18
Journalism & Electronic Media	10/4/18
Business Communication	10/4/18
Social Media Strategies	10/4/18

New Program

Magis Honors Program in STEM	5/8/18
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Program Deletion

Electronic Commerce	10/10/18
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