

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Michelle Maldonado, Ph.D.
Interim Provost/Senior VPAA

DATE: October 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Provost Report for September 14, 2022

1. Rank and Tenure

A public meeting to inform faculty of the rank and tenure policies and procedures was held on September 20th. Fifteen faculty have applied for tenure and/or promotion for 2022-2023. One faculty member applied for full professor, six have applied for associate, three have applied for tenure and promotion, and five have applied for tenure. The deadline for submitting dossiers and CVs is October 22, 2022.

2. Rankings

U.S. News & World Report ranked us No. 5 among regional universities in the north in its 2023 guidebook. This is the 29th consecutive year we ranked in the top 10.

Forbes ranked the University of Scranton among “America’s Top Colleges” for the 14th year. We are the only college in Northeast Pennsylvania to be named among the just 498 elite colleges in the nation listed in the 2022 ranking.

The Princeton Review included Scranton in its list of “Best Colleges” for 21 consecutive years, and ranked us No. 7 in the nation for “Best Science Lab Facilities in the 2023 edition of the guidebook.

Washington Monthly ranked the University of Scranton No. 47 among 603 master’s universities in the nation based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: social mobility, research, and providing opportunities for public service.

3. Global Education

Fall 2022 International Students

Country	Graduate			Undergraduate			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Bangladesh		1	1				1
Cayman Island				1		1	1
China (PRC)	1		1	2	1	3	4
Czech Republic	1		1				1
Dominican Republic					1	1	1
Egypt		1	1				1
Ethiopia	1	1	2				2
Ghana	1	2	3				3
India	52	29	81				81
Ireland				2	1 (EV)	3 (1 EV)	3 (1 EV)

Italy	1		1				1
Japan				1 (EV)		1 (EV)	1 (EV)
Jordan	1		1				1
Mexico					1 (EV)	1 (EV)	1 (EV)
Nepal	1		1		1	1	2
Nigeria		1	1				1
Pakistan	1	2	3	1		1	4
Philippines					1	1	1
Saudi Arabia	13	4	17	1		1	18
South Korea		1	1		2 (EV)	2 (EV)	2 (EV)
Spain					2 (EV)	2 (EV)	2 (EV)
Sweden					1 (EV)	1 (EV)	1 (EV)
Taiwan					4 (EV)	4 (EV)	4 (EV)
Ukraine				1		1	1
Vietnam				2		2	2
Total	73	42	115	11 (1EV)	15 (11 EV)	26 (12EV)	141 (12 EV)

Notes:

1. EV=Exchange students pursuing a full-time, non-degree seeking program
2. International students are defined here as students taking on campus, full-time, credit bearing courses under a F1 or J1 Student Visa
3. 80 (68 Regular and 12 Exchange Students) new international students this fall 2022. Out of 68 new students, 52 were graduate students from India

Study Abroad

Our annual study abroad fair was held on Thursday, September 15. About 230 students attended the in-person event held at the Loyola Science Center. Representatives from partner universities attended the fair, including programs from Australia (Wollongong University), Ireland (Sacred Heart University in Dingle), Italy (Loyola University Chicago's John Felice Rome Center, Cattolica Milan, Umbra Institute, ISI Florence, and Spring Hill College in Bologna), Spain (Comillas University), and the UK (Fordham London). Partner programs with worldwide study abroad locations also attended (American Institute for Foreign Study and the Center on International Educational Exchange.) The University of Scranton's faculty-led study abroad programs were showcased as well, with an aim to gather interest in upcoming intersession 2023 and summer 2023 undergraduate study abroad courses.

Faculty have proposed leading Intersession or Spring study abroad courses to the following countries: Ireland, Uganda, Israel, Slovakia, Brazil, Peru and the Dominican Republic. Travel courses are being reviewed and approved by the Travel Risk Committee.

4. Curriculum Approvals

New Course

COUN 555: Introduction to Neurocounseling

PT 715: Orthopedic PT III

PT 715L: Orthopedic PT Lab III

Date Posted

5/11/22

10/4/22

10/4/22

Course Change

NURS 250: Physical Health	5/11/22
NURS 250L: Physical Health Lab	5/11/22
PT 714: Orthopedic PT II	10/4/22
PT 714L: Orthopedic PT Lab II	10/4/22

4. Updates

- The Speech Language Pathology CAA candidacy site visit on September 7 & 8 went extremely well, thanks to the expertise and hard work of Program Director Dr. Hope Baylow and a cast of supporting faculty and staff. We are currently accepting admissions applications for the first cohort of students for the MS in SLP, who will be admitted in Fall of 2023.
- PCPS will resume a majority of our international travel courses and international service trips this Intersession and Summer terms after most have been on a hiatus due to the pandemic. Courses are on the master schedule for travel to Uganda (Nursing and Health Administration), Ireland (Nursing), Brazil (Health Administration), the Dominican Republic (Occupational Therapy) and Slovakia (Health Administration). PT has a faculty-led service trip planned to Guatemala.
- The Department of Health Administration and Human Resources will be hosting a Social Justice-based Case Competition on campus on November 18 & 19. They are expecting 16 teams to participate, 8 undergraduate and 8 graduate teams. Most of the cost associated with the competition is being underwritten by Geisinger.
- PCPS will be hosting a Virtual Speaker Series on DISABILITY. For more information on speakers and sessions, visit our website www.scranton.edu/disabilityconference
 - October 12, 2022, 1:00 -3:00 pm Career Opportunities in the Changing Workplace, Moderator Kathleen West-Evans, MPA, CRC
 - October 19, 2022, 1:00 -3:00 pm Embedding Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility: A Cultural Shift for Business, Communities and You, Hattie McCarter, MS, CRC and Stephanie Perry, MSW, LSW
 - October 26, 2022, 1:00 -3:00 pm A Framework for Community Engagement: A Pathway to Employment, Cayte Anderson, Ph.D., CRC and Emily Brinck, Ph.D., LPC, CRC

The 21st Annual US Conference on DISABILITY will resume next year.

- The Friends of the Weinberg Memorial Library will be presenting the Royden B. Davis, S.J., Distinguished Author Award to Pulitzer prize-winning author, Ayad Akhtar on November 18, 2022. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities are now available at: <https://www.scranton.edu/authaward>.
- The call for Affordable Learning Implementation Grants for courses being taught in Spring/Summer 2023 will be released in October. The deadline for consideration is Friday, December, 2nd.
- The OER Committee will be hosting a presentation on Affordable Learning for Faculty as part of Open Access Week. The event will be held on Monday, October 24th from 11:30-12:30 in WML 202. Faculty are invited to attend to learn more about open access and open educational resources as well as the affordable learning implementation grants.

- The Library has moved to a new service model which utilizes the main service point—the Library Services Desk (formerly the Circulation Desk)—to refer all student and faculty inquiries to the appropriate person. The Research & Instruction Librarians have moved to an On-Call model to support the change in services and will provide one-on-one and small group consultations directly in their offices. The Library’s two main phone numbers x7524 and x4000 are both still active.
- The Library has secured access to Kanopy Base for the remainder of this Academic Year, which dramatically increases our streaming media offerings on the Kanopy streaming service.
- A Featured Media collection of DVDs and Blu-Rays has been added to the Library’s Lobby.
- The Library is currently hosting an exhibit on the 30th Anniversary of the Library in the Heritage Room that will remain up until approximately March 2023. The exhibit focuses on the building and the Library’s educational and cultural programming.
- An exhibit on the 50th Anniversary of Co-Education at Scranton will be up during the week of October 11 and remain on display until April 2023. The exhibit focuses on the process that brought women into the undergraduate student population between 1970 and 1973. The exhibit also covers earlier educational opportunities for women at The University’s evening school and graduate school starting in 1923.
- The Library has removed late fee fines from student accounts and will no longer be charging for late returns. The Library will still charge for lost or replacement items. By going fine-free, the Library joins a growing national trend of fine-free libraries.
- Prof. Sylvia Orner has been elected as 1st Vice President of the Pennsylvania Library Association.
- The Interim Provost informed the Board of Trustees at their September meeting that the University will not move forward with a PA Program
- Numerous updates regarding the DEI Strategic Plan as well as future programs were highlighted in the 10/4/22 email from the Provost’s Office.
- The Interim Provost presented academic priorities for the 2022-2023 academic year to the Deans, Chair, Board of Trustees and President’s Cabinet.
 - **Review Strategic Enrollment Planning (SEP) process** We will review the strategic enrollment planning process in light of shifting realities within higher education, an increased focus on non-traditional learning and innovative graduate programs, and a desire to create a more transfer-friendly culture at the University. As part of the process, we will refine and review current academic offerings and assess new program proposals considering institutional mission and cost of education data.

- **Assessment of Academic Affairs** We will assess centralized University-wide academic initiatives within the Provost's Office in view of the evaluation of our General Education program, global education, academic support, and the current enrollment and demographic landscape of higher education.
- **Highlight the Distinctiveness of our Liberal Arts Education** We will foreground our Liberal Arts core curriculum broadly and the strength of our Humanities in particular as an expression of our Catholic and Jesuit educational mission that cultivates critical competencies for our students as they discern their academic vocation and professional journey.
- **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** We will support the implementation of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Strategic Plan in collaboration with the Council on Diversity and Inclusion, as well as distinctive initiatives within our Schools/Colleges and the Library. We will cultivate a culture of belonging considering our increasingly diverse student body.
- **Foster a Cohesive Vision of the University** We will collaborate with faculty to develop a cohesive and inclusive vision of Academic Affairs at the University while respecting the distinct uniqueness of our academic offerings, both undergraduate and graduate. We will support the professional development of faculty in their research and teaching through cross-disciplinary initiatives.