

TO: Faculty Senate

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

DATE: December 13, 2019

RE: Academic Affairs Report for December 2019

1. College of Arts and Sciences Dean Search

We are happy to report that the search for the next Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences has progressed nicely and we are now at a significant milestone. We have invited three finalists to our campus after extensive interviews with an exceptional group of semi-finalists last week. The finalists are/were on campus on December 4th, 9th and 10th. After each finalist visit we are asking the campus community to complete a survey to capture feedback. The search committee will gather this data along with feedback from the candidate recommendation interviews and prepare a list of strengths and weaknesses of each candidate for Fr. Pilarz and me. We will then determine which candidates are appropriate for the position and proceed toward an offer.

I want to again thank Charles Kratz (chair) and the entire search committee for their wise and thoughtful deliberations to get us to this finalist stage.

Charles Kratz, Dean of the Library and Information Fluency

Christine Falbo, CAS Academic Advisor

Timothy Foley, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Chemistry

Brian Kilner, Undergraduate student in CAS

Thomas MacKinnon, Vice-President for University Advancement

Jessica Nolan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Psychology

Stephen Whittaker, Ph.D., Professor, Department of English and Theatre

2. Strategic Planning Update

Since this is the final year of the current 2015-2020 Strategic Plan, we continue to move forward toward a new Strategic Plan through discussions with the Board of Trustees, President's Cabinet and University Planning Council. A letter to the campus from Fr. Pilarz describing the goals, process and timeline for further discussions will soon be coming.

3. Faculty Searches

Fifteen departments are searching to fill seventeen full-time tenure track positions and one visiting faculty position.

4. Rank and Tenure

The Board on Rank and Tenure will hold formal meetings on January 10, 11, 17 and 18, 2020 to review the applications of 20 candidates.

5. Intersession Grants 2020

Debra Fetherman	<i>Minor in Health Promotion</i>
Nathan Lefler	<i>Can Satan Cast Out Satan? Flannery O'Connor's "The Displaced Person"</i>
Aiala Levy	<i>São Paulo's Celso Garcia Hall and the Creation of a Laboring Public, 1900-1913</i>
Sufyan Mohammed	<i>Crisis Communication 2.0: Evaluating Corporate Crisis Communication Strategies & Media Choices in the Digital Age</i>
Mohammad Maktoomi	<i>High Sensitivity Fully Linear Resistive Transducer Bridge Amplifier</i>
Susan Poulson	<i>Murder, Gender, and the Insanity Defense after the Civil War</i>
Ana Ugarte	<i>Island Laboratories: Literary Monsters, Diseases, and Pharmacopeias in the Hispanic Caribbean"</i>

6. Curriculum Approvals

New Course	Date Posted
ART 130: Introduction to Digital Photography	9/19/19
PHIL 232: Women in Chinese and Western Philosophies	9/27/19
ENLT 254: "Bodybuilding": Narratives of Health and Ability	10/2/19
ENLT 256/CINE 256: Cinema Studies Watching the Detectives	10/2/19
ENLT 257/CINE 257: Cinema Studies The Western	10/2/19
BUAN 582: Customer Relationship Management	4/25/19
BUAN 590: Big Data Capstone Project	11/1/19
BUAN 584: Special Topics in Business Analytics	11/1/19
BUAN 580: Big Data and Ethics	11/1/19
BUAN 577: Data Visualization	10/21/19
BUAN 581: Applied Business Statistics	10/21/19
BUAN 583: Business Analytics Using Python	10/21/19
Course Change	
KNES 210: Sport and Exercise Physiology	10/9/19
EXSC 380: Internship in Exercise Science	9/16/19
LIT 207: Literature of Global Minorities	10/15/19

Program Change

MBA-MHA Dual Degree

5/7/19

Advertising/PR Grids in Strategic Communications

2/19/19

7. Updates

- Dr. Ismail Onat, assistant professor of sociology, criminal justice and criminology has received the 2019 Rutgers Center on Public Security (RCPS) Kaleidoscope Award.

RCPS specializes in applying geospatial technologies to scholarly research and addressing crime, terrorism and other threats to public security. The award is presented each year to a recipient who has demonstrated innovative applications of Risk Terrain Modeling, which diagnoses environmental conditions that lead to crime, that advance research and practice for the public good.

- The Princeton Review listed the Kania School of Management among the nation's "Best Business Schools" for 2020, marking the 15th consecutive year that Scranton has been included in the listing of just 248 of the most elite business colleges in the nation.
- Dr. Mary Jane Hanson, professor of nursing and director of the graduate and doctor of nursing practice programs was reelected as chair of the board for the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education for 2020.
- Dr. Nathaniel Frissell assistant professor of physics and electrical engineering was awarded a \$1.3M National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. He seeks to harness the power of a network of licensed amateur radio operators to better understand and measure the effects of weather in the upper levels of Earth's atmosphere.

7. Motion Updates from prior meetings

Motion # 3 2019-2020: 8-23-2019 Neuroscience Master's One-Year Program FSCC # 2018-238.

and

Motion # 4 2019-2020: 8-23-2019 Neuroscience 5th Year Option # 2016-46.

Since both of these programs rely on a partnership with the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine, we are currently discussing the creation of a memorandum of understanding between our two institutions before final approval. I will continue to hold this in my office until we a signed MOU.