

**TO: The Faculty Senate**

**FROM: Patricia Harrington, Ed.D.  
Acting Provost/Senior VPAA**

**DATE: May 6, 2016**

**SUBJECT: Provost's Report for May 13, 2016**

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**I. FACULTY SEARCHES:**

We have currently filled nine positions and interviews continue.

Julie Nastasi	Assistant Professor	Occupational Therapy
John Ruddy	Assistant Professor	Economics/Finance
Ashley Regan	Faculty Specialist	Accounting
Andrew Venezia	Assistant Professor	Exercise Science & Sport
Ahmed Gomaa	Associate Professor	OIM
Vincent Rocco	Faculty Specialist	OIM
E. Springs Steele	Faculty Specialist	Theology/Religious Studies
Aiala Levy	Visiting Instructor	History
Ismail Onat	Instructor	Sociology/Criminal Justice

**II. TENURE and PROMOTIONS:**

Please join me in congratulating the following faculty members who were promoted or received tenure. I would like to thank the Board on Rank and Tenure for all their hard work.

Dr. Declan Mulhall	Physics/EE	Professor
Dr. Krzysztof Plotka	Math	Professor
Dr. Stacey Muir	Math	Professor
Dr. Michael Jenkins	Sociology	Associate
Dr. Marc Seid	Biology	Associate/Tenure
Dr. David Salerno	Accounting	Associate/Tenure
Dr. Jennifer Kaschak	Education	Associate/Tenure
Dr. Teresa Conte	Nursing	Associate/Tenure
Dr. Kenneth Zula	HA/HR	Associate/Tenure
Dr. Matthew Meyer	Philosophy	Tenure
Dr. Andrew LaZella	Philosophy	Tenure
Dr. Patrick Clark	Theology	Tenure
Rev. Daniel Sweeney	Political Science	Tenure
Prof. Michelle McHugh	Library	Tenure
Dr. Joan Grossman	Exercise Science & Sport	Tenure

**III. ASSESSMENT:**

The Office of Educational Assessment (OEA) is pleased to announce that grants of up to \$1,800 are available to full-time faculty interested in enhancing their assessment skills.

We are especially interested in developing faculty expertise in assessment. The deadline to submit a proposal is June 1, 2016.

Proposals should not exceed 2 pages and must include the following information:

- Clear purpose of the grant;
- Positive impact that the grant will have on assessment of student learning;
- Positive impact that the grant will have on student learning outcomes; especially the assessment of program learning outcomes.
- An explicit and realistic timeframe;
- A specific budget with appropriate documentation if attending a conference or planning to purchase material that will advance your assessment activities.
- Additional funding can be applied to a grant request from partnering departments;
- Letter of support from Department Chair

#### **IV. FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS:**

Dr. Trussler has notified me that all five of our semi-finalist have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships. The recipients are:

- Veronica Sinotte, a double major in Biology and Philosophy, and in the SJLA and Honors programs, has won a Fulbright to Denmark, where she will pursue research in Biology at the University of Copenhagen.
- Ivan Simpson-Kent, a double major in Neuroscience and Philosophy, and also both SJLA and Honors, has won a Fulbright to Germany, where he will conduct research at the University of Regensburg.
- Olivia Gillespie, who is an English major, has won a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Brazil.
- Sarah Fitch, a senior in Strategic Communications and member of Business Leadership, was won a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Malaysia.
- Aimee Martin, who graduated with a BS in Neuroscience in 2012 and is now finishing up her Masters in Health Administration here, has won a Fulbright to China where she will conduct research on Chinese Traditional Medicine at Wuhan University.

#### **V. INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS**

On Wednesday, May 4, The University held its annual Student Scholar Celebration, sponsored by the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Over 175 students from 20 academic programs presented their research and scholarly work during an all-day poster presentation. Dr. Danielle Arigo, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, was the guest speaker at the concluding banquet.

#### **VI. CURRICULUM APPROVALS:**

<b>Program Change</b>	<b>Date</b>
Theology, MA	2/19/16
Counseling Graduate Program	2/19/16
Latin American Studies	2/19/16
Catholic Studies Concentration	2/4/16
MS, Special Education	2/26/16
Biomathematics	3/23/16

### **New Course**

T/RS 5XX and 4XX: Salvation Outside the Church?	3/2/16
COUN 459: Spirituality in Counseling & Human Services	2/22/16
COUN 559: Spirituality in Counseling	2/22/16
HIST 109X: The Frontier in American History	2/19/16
HIST 222: The Civil War on Film	2/19/16
ACC 505: Intermediate Accounting I	2/18/16
ACC 506: Intermediate Accounting II	2/18/16
ACC 507: Intermediate Accounting III	2/18/16
S/CJ 228: Crime and Criminal in the Media	3/2/16
COMM 108: Essential Writing Skills	3/2/16
ESPC 545: Single-Subject Design in Educational Settings	2/26/16

### **Course Change**

T/RS 327: Spiritual Classics	3/23/16
PHED 161: Sport First Aid	2/19/16
PHED 160: Coaching Principles	2/19/16
PSYC 481: Field Experience in Applied Psychology	2/19/16
ESPC 508: Intro Autism Spectrum Disorders & Applied Behavioral Analysis	2/19/16
EE 241: Circuit Analysis	2/19/16
PSYC 330L: Research Methods in the Behavioral Sciences Lab	2/19/16
PSYC 210: Statistics in the Behavioral Sciences	2/19/16
NEUR 493/494: Undergraduate Research in Neuroscience	3/16/16
ESPC 508: Intro Autism Spectrum Disorders & Applied Behavioral Analysis	2/26/16
ESPC 541: Evidence-Based Practices for Students with Emotional Behavioral Disorders	2/26/16
COMM 125X: Media, Stereotypes for the Future of the American Male	4/28/16

## **VII. THE COLLEGES:**

### **College of Arts and Sciences**

- The college celebrated the 400th Anniversary of William Shakespeare's death with "Shakespeare Lives!" a day-long festival featuring a plenary address by Carey Mazer, a noted Shakespeare scholar from the University of Pennsylvania.
- Two undergraduates, Corinne Negvesky (Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology) and Victor Dec (Nursing) presented their research at the national annual convention of the American Medical Student Association. Competing against medical students, Corinne and Victor finished first in the Community Development and Service Category for their research related to our Telehealth Intervention Program for Seniors, a program developed in collaboration with the United Neighborhood Centers in Scranton and the United Way of Lackawanna and Wayne Counties.
- Students from our Communication Department and Advertising Club finished fifth in the National Student Advertising Competition in New York City.

- Several teams of our Engineering students competed in the Region 2 IEEE micromouse competition in Cleveland. Our awards included a second place in the paper presentation, a second place in the micromouse kit competition, and a third place in the micromouse scratch competition.

### **Panuska College of Professional Studies**

- Four Exercise Science students, under the mentorship of Dr. Scott Breloff, will be presenting their biomechanics proposal at the National American Society of Biomechanics Conference in Raleigh, NC, summer 2016.
- In celebrating occupational therapy month WNEP (ABC) for northeastern and central PA did a story on our OT department. They sent a reporter who visited Leahy Hall where students and staff shared tips to help the aging population with daily activities.
- The Inaugural Maria Gervasio Cura Personalis Lecture on April 24, 2016 was excellent. Our speaker Danielle Butin, founder of AFYA, completely nailed her presentation and provided an experience that fully engaged all. We hope to have a video to share with you shortly. This lecture connected to the strategic plan of engaged and global.
- The Behavioral Health Speaker lecture on April 14, 2016 hosted 150 community members Eric Arauz gave a very powerful presentation. This lecture connected to the strategic plan of engaged and integrated.
- Dr. Kimberly Subasic, Dr. Cristen Walker, and nine nursing students recently returned from a medical mission trip to the Dominican Republic. The trip was organized by Island Impact Ministries and led by John Juliano, M.D. and his wife Mary both University alums. The group brought 32 suitcases containing donated medical supplies and medications.

### **Weinberg Memorial Library**

- On Saturday, October 29, 2016, The University of Scranton will be proud to present the Friends of Weinberg Library's Royden B. Davis Distinguished Author Award to a native son, playwright Stephen Karam. Born and reared in Scranton, Stephen is the author of *The Humans* and *Sons of the Prophet*, a finalist for the 2016 and 2012 Pulitzer Prize and the recipient of the 2012 Drama Critics Circle, Outer Critics Circle, Lucille Lortel and Hull-Warriner Awards for Best Play. Other plays include *Speech & Debate*, the inaugural production of Roundabout Underground; and *Columbinus*. For film, Stephen has written screenplay adaptations of Chekhov's *The Seagull*, starring Annette Bening, Elisabeth Moss, Corey Stoll and Saoirse Ronan, and *Speech & Debate*. He is a MacDowell Colony fellow, and the recipient of the inaugural Sam Norkin Off-Broadway Drama Desk Award. He teaches playwriting at The New School.
- 12,876 digital objects from the Weinberg Memorial Library's digital collections (<http://www.scranton.edu/library/digitalcollections>) are now discoverable in the Digital Public Library of America (<http://dp.la>). The Library contributed its metadata records to DPLA via the Pennsylvania Digital Partnership (<http://www.padigital.org>), of which the University of Scranton is a founding member.

- The McHugh Special Collections added ten volumes of Jesuit related rare books through the generosity of the Friends of Weinberg Library. Special Collections Librarian Michael Knies acquired the items at auction from Swann Auction Galleries in New York, after being alerted to the sale by Ed Leahy. Among the titles are an early edition of Pedro Ribadeneira's bibliography of Jesuit writings, Athanasius Kircher's *Ars Magna Sciendi* (his 1643 attempt to categorize all human knowledge), and a 1635 collection of the rules and regulations of the Jesuits. The books will be used for teaching, exhibits and research.
- The McHugh Special Collections also just acquired the Edward H. Fearon Penmanship Collection, from descendants of the penman. This small collection compliments our Zaner-Bloser penmanship collection, acquired in 2010, which is the largest publicly available collection of later 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century American penmanship and calligraphy in the country.
- A recent Heritage Room exhibit of fine book bindings and letterpress printing by local craftsman Don Rash featured a number of classroom visits by both University of Scranton students as well as Marywood University graduate and undergraduate classes where Don Rash discussed his career and techniques with the students.
- In March 2016, the Weinberg Memorial Library participated in an international Wikipedia edit-a-thon, coordinated by the organization Art+Feminism, in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, this collaborative event brings together libraries, archives and museums to improve and generate content on Wikipedia that uses and links back to its institutional holdings. The training and editing workshop held at the Weinberg Library sought to encourage new editorship, strengthen students' information literacy and critical thinking skills, and advance the public good by promoting information equity. Following this event, students could effectively identify content gaps in Wikipedia articles, critically evaluate and use sources to address those gaps, and appropriately document their references. The outcomes of this event were nearly 2000 new articles on women created globally, and 1000 articles improved through the addition of citations and external references.