

TO: Faculty Senate

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

DATE: November 2, 2018

RE: Academic Affairs Report for November 2018

Strategic Enrollment Planning Update

Lew Sanbourne from Ruffalo Noel Levitz will be back on campus on November 13th and 14th to meet with the SEP Council and each Working Group. I will provide an update on progress to the campus community after this visit.

Faculty Searches

We are currently searching for 15 tenure track faculty positions. The link to the listings are posted on the Provost's [website at https://universityofscrantonjobs.com/](https://universityofscrantonjobs.com/)

One search was successfully completed. Michael Bermudez has been hired as an Assistant Professor in the OT Department.

Faculty Handbook Committee

Joint Hires

Dr. Ahuja, Dr. Gingerich, Dr. Dzurec and Dr. West have agreed to serve on the subcommittee on Joint Hires.

Scheduling of Courses 8.1

Interim Dean Rajan, Dean Pellegrino, Dr. Petsas, and Dr. Dzurec have agreed to serve on the subcommittee to look at Handbook language referring to the course scheduling process.

Discontinuation of Programs

Last year, a number of academic programs were initially proposed for discontinuation. This year I have reviewed these proposals with the deans and am providing the following update:

The following programs have been approved for discontinuation through Faculty Senate:

- Superintendent Letter of Eligibility/Assistant Superintendent Letter of Eligibility Non-Degree Program
- M.S. English as a Second Language Program
- Supervision Non-Degree Program
- M.S./M.A. Reading Education Program
- M.S. Early and Primary Teacher Education Program

The following programs will continue to be proposed to discontinue:

- Chemistry and Computers
- Electronic Commerce

We will not continue proposals at this time for discontinuation of the following programs:

- Women and Gender Studies major
- Clinical Chemistry (MS)
- Theology (MA) – will re-evaluate in April 2020

In addition, I have had good discussions with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee about the process for program discontinuation and am drafting a revised process to present to Faculty Senate shortly.

Study Abroad/Global Initiatives

Provost Strategic Fund Grant for faculty led development: A total of seven grants have been made with 4 faculty going in intersession and three in summer.

The number of students presently going abroad in intersession 2019 is 163. So far 45 students will go abroad in spring 2019, but we are still accepting applications.

International Studies and Scholarly Services

Please consider attending the Open House on November 13, 2018 between 2- 4 p.m. on the 5th floor of O'Hara Hall to see the new office space for these programs:

The Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
The International Programs and Services
The Graduate Academic/Student Services

Middle States Self Study

The Middle States Self-study continues apace: co-chairs sent the Self-Study Report draft to the campus, have solicited comments from key campus groups and, in an October 31 Campus Feedback Session, from the entire campus. Thank you for your contributions to this process. The draft has been sent to the Team Chair, who will respond to it as part of his Preliminary Visit, when he is also meeting with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and other representatives from the faculty. The University will bring the full Report to the Board of Trustees this month and, after final editing, will submit it to Middle States in early January, along with supporting documentation (at this point, more than 1000 documents). We are pleased with the work of more than 80 faculty, staff, and administrators throughout the process to date, and look forward to the full team visit, March 3-6, 2019.

Office of Educational Assessment (OEA)

The 2019 Intersession Assessment Institute will take place in January. The Institute offers a series of workshops designed to provide guidance to faculty and others involved in assessing student learning. Open to faculty of all disciplines, the Institute provides educators with the opportunity to learn from their colleagues in a supportive environment.

Over the last three years we have investigated a number of assessment platforms. We conducted reference checks and limited testing environments in collaboration with CTLE and IT. We considered faculty and student feedback from vendor demonstrations and choose Watermark. We have begun a targeted rollout of Via and Aqua tools by Watermark. This fall several PCPS programs have begun to integrate Via into their assessment processes. The OEA has already

used Aqua for coordinated assessments and is implementing it again this fall for a project in FYS. The OEA would welcome the opportunity to demonstrate the capabilities of these platforms to any programs that are interested in ways to streamline their assessment processes.

Fulbright Update

I am pleased to inform you that five individuals have submitted applications for Fulbright Scholarships. In November and December, the National Screening Committee of the Institute of International Education will review the applications and make recommendations as to the national semifinalist for awards. The applications of the semi-finalists will then be transmitted to the host countries, where the final decisions will be made in late Spring.

Thomas McGinley	Business	Finland	Marketing
Everett Minchew	Teaching ESL	Malaysia	Exercise Science
Elizabeth Polishan ('17)	Creative Writing	Ireland	English & Philosophy
Laura Romanovich ('18)	Biology	Malaysia	Biology & Philosophy
Kelsey Rosa	Teaching ESL	Spain	Int'l Lang-Business (Spanish)

College Updates

College of Arts and Sciences

- The University of Scranton Speech Team members attended the second Southern-Northern Atlantic Forensics Union (SNAFU) Tournament at Seton Hall University.

The participants were:

- Shaye Santos (Neuroscience Major)
- Juliet Baldassarri (Occupational Therapy Major)
- Kasidy Leggin (Physiology)

Juliet and Kasidy brought home a fourth place medal for their dramatic duo interpretation and Juliet brought home a third place medal in poetry interpretation.

- The University will host the next Jesuit Universities Humanitarian Action Network JUHAN Student Leadership Conference in June 2019. JUHAN was established to improve how Jesuit Universities respond to humanitarian crises in the US and through the world. Its principal focus is undergraduate education that seeks to advance humanitarian study and professional practice in the field of humanitarian action.

Weinberg Memorial Library

- Edward Leahy '68, H'01 donated an 1894-1897 nursing student notebook written by Ella V. Wilderson from her time at Boston City Hospital. Wilderson became principal of the nurse training school at the Woman's Hospital New York City. The notebook was donated to Special Collections when Mr. Leahy made his gift to the nursing school. The notebook is being digitized and will be made available both online and in Special Collections.

Curriculum Approvals:**New Course**

	Date Posted
Lit 123: The Italian-American Experience II: Italians in Hollywood	12/11/17
HADM 230: Complementary and Alternative Medicine	2/28/18
T/RS 342: Science and the Common Good	5/8/18

Course Change

COMM 224: Newswriting	4/26/18
COMM 320: Reporting	4/26/18
COMM 329: Graphics	4/26/18
ECO 101: Current Economic Issues	4/3/18
HD 325: Abnormal Child Psychology	2/19/18
SPAN 315: Medical Spanish	5/8/18

Course Deletion

ENLT 455: American Realists	5/3/18
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Program Change

Electrical Engineering	9/7/18
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Program Deletion

Superintendent Assistant Supervisory Letter	4/12/18
English as a Second Language, MS	4/12/18
Supervision Non-Degree	4/12/18
Reading Education MA/MS	4/12/18
MS Early & Primary Teacher Education	4/12/18