

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Donald R. Boomgaarden, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: November 5, 2015

RE: Provost's Report for November, 2015

I. RANK AND TENURE:

The rank and tenure process, as stipulated by the *Faculty Handbook*, is underway. Departments and deans will be presenting their evaluations of the candidates during the month of November, and the Board of Rank and Tenure will begin their review of candidate's files on December 11th. The Board on Rank and Tenure will meet on January 15th and 16th and 22nd. We have 19 candidates this year.

II. FACULTY SEARCHES:

We are currently searching for 10 tenure track faculty positions and 1 faculty specialist. One department has been interviewing candidates. The listings are posted on the Provost's website. <http://matrix.scranton.edu/academics/provost/newfacpos.shtml>

A combined ad was placed in the Chronicle of Higher Education in the October 30th edition.

III. OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT:

OEA Accomplishments since the beginning of the 2015-16 Academic Year

- The Director and Fellows reviewed all Program Assessment Plans and Program Assessment Reports submitted in CAS (all but six programs submitted Program Assessment Plans). Dr. Ledford-Miller reported at the September CAS Dean's Conference on overall strengths and areas for improvement identified in the assessment plans.
- The Directors, Fellows and Analyst aggregated and reviewed results of PLO-ILO mapping completed in CAS and will report these at a future CAS Dean's Conference.
- The Office hosted participation in the Annual Conference on Teaching and Learning Assessment at Drexel University. The following members of administration, faculty, and professional staff attended: Donald Boomgaarden, Patricia Harrington, Mary Jane K. DiMattio, Linda Ledford-Miller, Cyrus Olsen, Richard Walsh, Rebecca Beal, Dona Carpenter, Marian Farrell, Tara Fay, Catherine Lovecchio, Jennifer Schwartz, and Kevin Wilkerson.

- Cyrus Olsen, Director of GE Assessment participated in the Teagle conference on GE Assessment in October. He is currently working with key faculty to complete 4 or the 5 GE assessment projects that are underway.
- The Office published Fall OEA Newsletter:
<http://www.scranton.edu/academics/provost/institutional-effectiveness/newsletter.shtml>

OEA Initiatives Currently Underway

- The office is planning for the Intersession Assessment Institute. The title will be: Excellence & Evaluation in Jesuit Education: Ignatian Discernment & Program Practice.
- The Directors and Faculty Fellows are meeting with program directors/faculty in CAS for refinement of Program Assessment Plans

OEA Assessment Activities Currently Underway

- The Associate Provost and Office are preparing to begin the interview process for a Faculty Fellow from CAS to fill the slot left open by Harry Dammer. A request for applications was distributed to all full-time faculty in CAS.

IV. CURRICULUM:

The following proposals have been approved:

Program Change	Date Posted
Accelerated BS in Management/MBA	5/13/15
New Course	
ENTL 134X: Hardboiled Heroes and Gangsters	5/28/15
Course Change	
THTR 214: Drama Practicum	5/13/15
Physics Course Descriptions	5/13/15

V. GRANTS

Intersession Grants:

The Faculty Development Board reviewed 6 applications for Intersession grants and awarded 3 grants to the following faculty members:

Michael G. Azar:	<i>Eastern Orthodox Interpretation of Paul, An International Collaboration</i>
Oliver J. Morgan:	<i>It's All Connected: Integrating the Many Layers of Addiction</i>
Susan L. Poulson:	<i>Divorce and Women's Rights</i>

VI. OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS (ORSP):

ORSP will support faculty in their efforts to write effective grant proposals seeking extramural support for research activities. Awarded stipends totaling \$1,500 will provide selected faculty with monetary support to incentivize the development of external grant proposals. An initial stipend of \$750 will be paid for the grant development during

Intercession 2016 or Summer 2016, and an additional \$750 stipend will be provided to awardees upon submission of the completed proposal to ORSP.

VII. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES:

Study Abroad

Seventeen University students are studying abroad in fall 2015. Hosting countries are: Italy, South Korea, Denmark, United Kingdom, France, Ireland, Australia, and the People's Republic of China.

VIII. RANKINGS:

The University of Scranton ranks 22nd in the nation for the impact it has on the earnings of its graduates, according to a first-ever ranking by *The Economist*, the well-respected international news publication. Following the premise that a “good student” would do well at any college, *The Economist* used regression analysis to measure the effect of an array of variables in order to determine the actual impact the college has on the earnings of a graduate.

The Economist measured The University of Scranton's additional earnings impact to be \$8,437 annually, ranking it 22nd in the country, and giving us the second highest rank of a Jesuit university, following only Georgetown University at No. 16. We are the seventh highest ranked college in Pennsylvania.

IX. BROWN BAG LUNCHEONS:

November 19th Fr. Quinn will meet with the new faculty.

X. UPDATES

College of Arts and Sciences

- On October 22nd, we hosted a site visit by a team from the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences as part of our application for certification of our Criminal Justice program. Only six undergraduate programs in the country have received this certification.
- More than 30 colleges representing law, medicine and graduate programs in other fields, will participate in The University of Scranton's 30th annual Law, Medical, Graduate School Fair for students from area colleges and local residents. The fair was held on October 28th and was hosted by our Roche Center for Career Development.
- The Jonathan F. Reichert Foundation has awarded Juan Serna, Ph.D., Physics/EE Department, an ALPhA Immersion Equipment Grant. The grant is awarded, to faculty that have completed the two or three day immersion experience, will provide funds to purchase apparatus used by faculty who participated in the immersion experience.
- Virginia Grise, theatre artist and winner of the Yale Drama Prize for her play *blu*, will present a public reading of her work on November 11, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. in the Studio Theatre of the McDade Center for Literary and Performing Arts. She will also meet with classes and groups of student throughout the day on November 12th.

Kania School of Management

- Christopher LoGiurato, a business administration and entrepreneurship major was selected to participate in the 2015-2016 Google Student Ambassador Program. Students chosen for this program will enhance their leadership and communication skills, and gain access to a worldwide network of Google Ambassadors.
- The Henry George Lecture Series a preeminent public lecture series in economics in Northeastern Pennsylvania was held on November 4th. This year Susan Athey, Ph.D., the Economics of Technology Professor at the Stanford Graduate School of Business discussed “The Internet and the News Media”.

Panuska College of Professional Studies

- T. Colin Campbell, Ph.D., professor emeritus of nutritional biochemistry at Cornell University and co-author of “The China Study,” will discuss his research on health and nutrition at The University of Scranton on Wednesday, November 11th. Dr. Campbell has been influential in shaping nutrition and health in the world health community. Much of his research focuses on how diet can improve health and reduce the chances for life-threatening diseases, such as cardiovascular disease and cancer.

Weinberg Memorial Library

- Weinberg Library’s Heritage Room is hosting an exhibit featuring the library’s collection of material from the International Correspondence Schools of Scranton. The Library’s McHugh Special Collections received a donation of material from an ICS successor company in 2002 and we have added to the collection through donations. ICS, founded in 1890, was a pioneer in correspondence education. The company began in order to provide education for mine workers needing to pass state certification but quickly expanded into almost all other areas of education. ICS was truly international, with offices and programs in 40 countries. The exhibit features marketing material, building photographs, student work, and many instructional pamphlets and books. There is an exhibit reception on November 3 featuring a talk by Marywood Professor Bill Conlogue who has written on ICS history in his book *Here and There: Reading Pennsylvania’s Landscapes*.
- 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. 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.