

Provost Update to Senate October 27, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

- Previous faculty newsletters can be found at <https://provost.catholic.edu/newsletters>
- Previous updates to the Academic Senate have been posted to the same website and are organized by academic year.
- These are also searchable using the search tool at the top of the page.

- **Opus Prize to be Awarded Next Week**
 - The Catholic University of America will be hosting the 2022 Opus Prize next week.
 - The Opus Prize is an annual faith-based humanitarian award, recognizing leaders and organizations that develop creative, faith-filled solutions to some of the world's most pressing problems.
 - The prize is given not only to expand the humanitarian efforts of the recipient, but to inspire others to pursue lives of service.
 - The \$1 million award and two \$100,000 prizes make up one of the world's largest faith-based awards for social entrepreneurship.
 - I encourage everyone to participate in events on campus next Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (November 1-3, 2022), with the prize being announced at the awards ceremony on Thursday afternoon.
 - More information can be found at <https://opus.catholic.edu/>
- **Cancellation of Morning Classes for the President's Inauguration**
 - All morning classes on Friday, November 11 have been canceled to allow our faculty, staff, and students to participate in the historic event of President Kilpatrick's Inauguration.
 - I would ask that you encourage your students to attend the ceremony and volunteer to assist if possible.
 - Classes will resume at 12:10 pm on Friday.

GROWTH TASKFORCE

- International Student Growth
 - Graduate Students: Globally Recruit
 - Webinars
 - LinkedIn: Oct 15
 - Living and Learning in DC: Nov 5
 - LinkedIn 2: Nov 19
 - Working for a Fortune 500: Dec 3
 - Interviewing: Dec 17
 - Agencies
 - Undergraduate Students: BridgeU
- Graduate Student Growth
 - In today's senate meeting (10/27/2022), we will propose a change to simplify and streamline the admissions process for paying masters students in professional programs. See Agenda Item 5.b, and Document 7, in today's senate materials.
 - Gray Associates

- Market Analysis Workshop Nov 8 and 9; SWOT Analysis spring
- Undergraduate Student Growth
 - Yield Focus for fall 23
 - Ambassador Series
 - Postcard Campaign
 - Dual Enrollment
 - Challenge Exams
 - Funnel focus for fall 24, 25

FUND 18/19 DISCRETIONARY ACCOUNTS

- Earlier this spring, the Provost Office pooled roughly \$3.8M of discretionary funds (Funds 18/19) from across the academic area (Funds 18/19 are unrestricted, internally designated funds). This represents just over $\frac{1}{3}$ of the discretionary account balance across the academic area.
- Since the Board of Trustees requires the University to balance across all operating funds (that is, no deficit spending), excluding Funds 51 and 59 but including Funds 18 and 19, and because of the steep drops in enrollment and hence operating revenues over the last approximately 10 years, the University has had to manage the spending of cash reserves on general operating expenses by implementing spend authority.
- On the other hand, capital expenditures generally do not change the overall balance sheet of the University (the asset class changes from liquid cash to capital which is expensed over the useful life of that asset through depreciation).
- Therefore, in consultation with the deans last year, we elected to pool the roughly \$3.8M of discretionary funds to allow for strategic, capital improvements over the next five years benefitting the entire academic area.
- The University Advancement and Budget offices went through the full list of funds to ensure that no donor restricted funds were reallocated or used contrary to their intended purpose.
- Nevertheless, several chairs of departments expressed their concerns in letters to me and the President.
 - On 10/17/202 I met with the Dean and Chairs of Arts & Sciences to discuss these changes and to apologize for my miscommunication with their dean.
 - I am happy to discuss this further.

GUADALUPE PROJECT

- On Thursday, the University will announce the work of the Guadalupe Project and President Kilpatrick to move Catholic University towards being an even more hospitable place for pregnant and parenting faculty, staff, and students.
- I plan to release a letter that same day emphasizing two points:
 - My strong commitment to the faculty parental leave policy (*Faculty Handbook* III.B.10) implemented last year, and

- My plan, following our procedures, to initiate a change to the *Faculty Handbook* to **extend paid parental leave for faculty from eight weeks to twelve.**

REPRESENTATIVE NEW GRANT AWARDS

- To Vince Kiernan, Metropolitan College, \$287,537 from U. S. Department of Education for “Veterans Upward Bound Program.”
- To Greg Kalicy, Physics, A&S, \$120,000 from Brookhaven Science Associates for “eRD14 Project: DIR-based PID for the EIC Central Detector.”
- To Rebecca Kiriazes, Civil and Environmental Engineering, \$15,000 from National Science Teaching Association for “Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.”

REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

- From Jonathon Smith, Physics/ IACS, \$540,145 to NASA for “Using Machine Learning to Simultaneously Analyze Equatorial Plasma Bubbles.”
- From Melissa Grady, NCSSS, \$637,838 to NIH for “Implementation of Dialectical Behavior Therapy in Juvenile Justice to Reduce Self-Harm and Increase Quality of Life.”
- From Sang Wook Lee, Biomedical Engineering, \$175,654 to NIH for “Understanding Altered Decision-Making of Stroke Survivors Affecting Arm Choice.”
- From Eun Koh, NCSSS, \$172,969 to NIH for “Child Maltreatment and Racial Disparity in the Context of COVID-19: A Multi-State Analysis.”
- From Jem Rosario Sullivan, STRS, \$46,038 to Lilly Endowment, for “Nurturing Children’s Workshop.”
- From Venigalla Rao, Biology, A&S, \$4,003,574 to NIH for “A Novel Bacteriophage T4-Based Adjuvant- and Needle-Free Nanoparticle Platform for Designing Mucosal Vaccines against Emerging Epidemic/Pandemic Pathogens: A Flu-COVID-19 Dual Vaccine as a Prototype.”
- From Diego Turo, Mechanical Engineering, \$80,036 to the Office of Naval Research for Measuring Acoustic Surface Impedance of Rough Water: Experimental Design and Modeling.”
- From Chris Raub, Biomedical Engineering, \$633,490 to NIH for “Rapid Holographic, Polarization, and IR Spectroscopy Imaging on a Single Platform to Link Cancer Cell Motility to Local Microstructural Features.”
- From Leon Ofman, Physics/IACS, \$598,925 to NASA for “SHINE: Analysis of Ion Kinetic Instabilities in the Solar Wind Observed Near the Sun with Hybrid Modeling and Machine Learning.”
- From Chuan-Fu Lin, Mechanical Engineering, \$202,762 for “Molecular Synthesis of Hybrid Materials for Electrochemical Interfaces.”

LIBRARIES

- In case you missed the last open house for faculty, information on services most frequently used by faculty can be found on our website at

libraries.catholic.edu/services/information-for-users/information-for-faculty/

- Special Collections, in partnership with ProQuest, recently completed a digitization project for the papers of noted New Deal Era labor priest and Catholic University professor [Msgr John A. Ryan](#). This collection will join several other previously digitized Catholic University collections as part of the [Proquest History Vault](#). We are currently in the process of undertaking a similar project for the papers of [Msgr. Francis J. Haas](#).
- The Washington Research Library Consortium is hosting [Faculty Perspectives: Use Only What You Want: Adapting and Remixing OER](#), a brief introduction to open textbooks and a panel discussion featuring faculty members who teach with them, at noon on November 2nd. All teaching instructors attending will have the opportunity to earn a \$200 stipend by posting a review of an open textbook.