

# Provost Update to Senate May 12, 2020

## COVID-19

- I want to thank everyone for the outstanding work you have done to serve our students this semester, particularly after Spring Break when we were forced to move everything to a virtual learning environment

## PASS/FAIL THIS SEMESTER

- 1,054 undergraduate students (or 33.6%) of the total 3,135 chose some form of P/F.
- Of the 16,608 total undergraduate grades this semester, 1,803 of them (or 10.9%) were graded P/F.

## STUDENT WINS FULBRIGHT

Serena Viti has won a Fulbright! She will be headed to Mauritius to do original research. President Garvey wrote one of her letters of recommendation. Ms. Viti is a graduating Honors student in A&S earning a BS in International Economics and Finance and, in addition, a European Studies Certificate. She is a University Scholar and will be inducted into Phi Beta Kappa on Friday. She also did our European Parliament internship program.

## SUMMER ENROLLMENT

Status as of May 6th summer enrollment. The comparison is 5/6 vs. same date in 2019 (that is, it is a snapshot in time).

Note: the numbers in parentheses are the % values from last 4/29/2020 (week prior to 5/6).

Overall improvement week-over-week in programs outside of NCSSS.

University:

headcount = 0.7% (-5.5%)

SCH = -2.2% (-7.6%)

NCSSS:

headcount = -40.3% (-42.6%)

SCH = -39.2% (-40.6%)

Everyone, excluding NCSSS:

headcount = +11.6% (+5.0%)

SCH = +8.2% (+2.2%)

## **UNDERGRADUATE RECRUITMENT**

- Deposit date moved to June 1 which complicates year to year comparisons; we would normally know more about the incoming class at this point than we know this year
- The Admission office has planned a number of additional virtual meetings in May (between May 1 and June 1); these events have been well attended and have been receiving positive feedback thus far
- REPORT FROM CHRIS LAST FRIDAY:
  - We currently have more than 2,400 students who have not informed us of their college plans. With the enrollment deadline extended to June 1, there are a large number of students who have not yet made their enrollment decision. We will be hosting virtual recruitment events throughout May to remain engaged with these students.
  - A recent survey of our admitted students revealed that slightly more than 25% of the respondents had reconsidered their enrollment decision in light of Covid-19. About two-thirds of those students identified financial issues as the motivating factor and one-third indicated they planned to enroll closer to home. Nationally, the vast majority of institutions with profiles similar to ours are down, with schools that held to the May 1 deadline down, on average, by a smaller percentage than schools that moved their deadline to June 1.
  - The National Association for College Admission Counseling reported that more than 750 institutions still have space available, compared to about 450 a year ago.

## **GRADUATE RECRUITMENT**

May 7<sup>th</sup> Fall 2020 Graduate Application Statistics Report.

Fall 2020 Master's Statistics (compared to Fall 2019 – comparison date of 5/3/2019)

- Overall, there is a decrease of 65 applications (-8.0%);
- Overall, there is a decrease of 3 admissions (-0.6%);
- Overall, there is a decrease of 29 deposits (-12.8%).

Fall 2020 Doctoral Statistics (compared to Fall 2019 – comparison date of 5/3/2019)

- Overall, there is an increase of 17 applications (+3.7%);
- Overall, there is a decrease of 2 admissions (-1.2%);
- Overall, there is an increase of 18 deposits (+27.7%).

### **DISSERTATIONS AND THESES**

	<b>2019-2020</b>
<b>TOTAL MASTERS</b>	<b><u>23</u></b>
<b>TOTAL LICENTIATE</b>	<b><u>39</u></b>
<b>TOTAL DOCTORATE</b>	<b><u>116</u></b>
<b>TOTAL DEGREES</b>	<b><u>178</u></b>

2018-2019 was the largest number of deposits in the past fifteen years, and 2019-2020 was the second largest. [Average years have been 28 masters deposits, 30 licentiate deposits, and 97 doctoral deposits.]

In the spring 2020 graduation alone, there were 14 masters theses, 17 licentiate theses, and 77 doctoral dissertations, treatises, and evidence-based projects deposited. 102 of these 108 documents were deposited online through ProQuest (6 theses were deposited before the COVID-19 pandemic closed campus).

### **COMMENCEMENT**

- We are holding virtual ceremonies for Phi Beta Kappa induction and completion of honors tracks this Friday
- We are holding a university wide degree conferral ceremony on Saturday morning. We felt it was important for the graduates to know their degrees were conferred. We are mailing their diplomas and programs after this meeting so students will have them in hand by Saturday.

- The virtual ceremony will be shorter than our normal ceremony - most likely about 30 minutes.
- Each school will be holding a virtual ceremony after the university wide ceremony beginning at 11 am EST.
- We are planning a live, in person event on August 7. The plan is to hold Honors Convocation to give out awards and Baccalaureate Mass as part of our in person events in August.
- **Call on Lynn**

### **UPDATE ON DEAN SEARCHES**

- Later today in the Executive Session we will consider the rank and tenure of a new Dean of Architecture.
- **THANK RANDY OTT! Served as Dean since 2003!**
- Tomorrow President Garvey and I will meet with the faculties of A&S and NCSSS for consultative votes. The plan would be to bring both of these dossiers forward to the Senate in a special meeting this month.

### **PLANNING FOR TEACHING IN THE FALL ON CAMPUS**

- We are planning for mixed modality teaching for the Fall 2020 semester
  - Majority of students in classroom, with some joining remotely
- Currently adding technology to two high use classrooms in McMahon and McGivney as test cases
  - Cameras, flat screen, projector, microphones
- Would also allow for instructor and guest lecturers to join in remotely
  - Plan on having instructors on campus for teaching, but gives us flexibility
- Many details on logistics
  - We have sketched out the basic questions and plans
  - Forming an ad-hoc committee on instruction in 2020/2021 AY
    - Will/have asked Deans for members of the faculty to help with this. [**COMMENT BY STEVE NOT TO BE MENTIONED OUT LOUD** You may not want to make the following comment about associate deans since Andrew Simpson mentioned he wants “regular teaching faculty”] Typically Associate Deans
- Summer will not be a normal vacation time, but the time to plan for Fall 2020

## Moving Forward on Research

- Reestablishing UROC with charge:
  1. Develop plans for supporting the needs for on campus/off campus research operations as the University transitions from the current situation to normal operations.
  2. Develop research continuity plans in the event of future disruptions in University operations, to include forced off campus operations, federal government shutdowns, etc. Plans should include elements of both technical and administrative (including HR and immigration) functions.
  3. Support the work of the research infrastructure consultant.
  4. Develop a roadmap to move from an “R2” to an “R1” Carnegie Classification.

## New Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies

As part of the initiatives to increase the University’s international footprint we are proposing the creation of the Center for Latin American and Iberian Studies. This is an interdisciplinary center that will combine efforts from several schools related to Latin America and the Iberian peninsula.

We currently offer a Minor and a Certificate in Latin American and Latino Studies and the creation of the Center will give more visibility to the program.

A good example of what this Center will facilitate is the Concert that the Oliveira Lima Library and the Rome School of Music, Drama and Art are planning to celebrate the memory of Oliveira Lima with the financial support (\$25k) of the Brazilian government. Another example is the series of lectures and events planned in collaboration with the Center of Cultural Engagement and the University Archives such as the Reading of the Plan de Iguala that took place on 09/30 to celebrate Mexican Independence Day which had a record number of Latino participants on campus.

By having a formal Center we anticipate that many more of these types of activities will take place on campus.

The Office of Global Strategies has recently hired a Latin American strategist, Livia Lopes from GWU. She will be engaged in promoting the Center and how to increase our presence in Latin America. She has already started looking into joining a network of 7 Pontifical catholic universities in Brazil and the Coimbra-Group, an international consortium of dozens of universities in Latin American and Europe. The Director of the Coimbra group was on campus in March during her visit of the Organization of American States and is very interested in collaborating with us. The Center will have a strong role in making these connections effective by announcing opportunities to scholars and students inbound and outbound.

Document written by everyone engaged with the creation of the Center and to be circulated to the senators:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ilg31eoWavJQvHAhD4A3RDc\\_-A6V4GBK-3ijuG4eGys/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Ilg31eoWavJQvHAhD4A3RDc_-A6V4GBK-3ijuG4eGys/edit)