

Provost Update to Senate June 4, 2020

EXTENSION OF PROBATIONARY PERIODS FOR TENURE TRACK FACULTY

- I am happy to report that the BoT on Tuesday approved the FH change recommended by this body earlier this spring allowing me to extend the probationary periods of tenure-track faculty due to extraordinary circumstances, e.g., COVID-19.
- I sent letters to 39 affected faculty yesterday laying out their new probationary periods and review schedules.
- I also am happy to report that the BoT approved the 10 tenure applications considered by this body this academic year. I also sent letters to these affected faculty yesterday.

UPDATE ON DEAN SEARCHES

- Later today in the Executive Session we will consider the rank and tenure of a new Dean of Social Work.
- **THANK Marie Raber!**

- President Garvey has appointed a new Dean of A&S--Thomas W. Smith. His appointment and tenure dossiers will be brought forward to this body later this month.
- **THANK David Walsh!**

- On Tuesday, the BoT approved the tenure application of Dean Ferugson.

- We expect all three deans to begin their services on July 1st.

PLANNING FOR TEACHING IN THE FALL

- Fall instructional planning letter that I sent on Tuesday evening. Link:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oBaHtIjcX6gUNgYsEz6zkdl0KIDahlNkjrkBhNh9Do8/edit?ts=5ed17cbe>

- Working groups (link, if needed):
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YC0yQR6ZIW3u9t8RIjqzeGaYFkAqRm2BZByUgJwG0ks/edit>
- Mention technology upgrades and McMahon 112/McGivney 106

NOTE: IF NEEDED COPIED AT THE END OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE YOUR NOTES FROM THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS MEETING

Moving Forward on Research

- Reformed the UROC. Meeting weekly. Scientific research facilities, professional programs, libraries, social sciences
 - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WxdBVgSIB0iL1LpzZLrHRWgK-4YxDNRtbnQKb7rp1gk/edit?usp=sharing>
- Goal is to transition research from current situation in phases to full production
- Looking for opportunities to make stronger. Already applied for NEH grant to support the Library.
- Over the summer produce concrete plans, including new lab and operational safety protocols.

Teach-out and Closures:

Holy Family Teach-out Agreement:

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=11aYoiMTEBH7ITNOE5Xp0gKxDmjSqY9nP>

ACCU Directory with Forbes (November 2019) “Grades” and IPEDS Data:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=13HsBOFFNY46GiQlh7e4auS2Ou4KIHBe1hwfLDg1h_Is

NOTES FROM ACADEMIC AFFAIRS MEETING

- **Fully online and remote modality accomplished in Spring 2020.** If needed, we know how to do it.
 - Summer 2020 is fully online and remote. Summer enrollment actually not too bad.
- **Instructional continuity:** Goal is to be prepared for mixed modality in-class/remote in Fall 2020 with basic academic calendar intact. Maximum flexibility. Will also make us a stronger institution.
 - Instructional Continuity Ad Hoc Committee of faculty and admin formed. Meets weekly.
 - Goal is concrete plans over the next weeks to be ready for Fall 2020
 - https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rB7fhLrsm9nle2Yigci-Dr6KD8Kk2_n?usp=sharing
- **Classroom technology:** Retrofit as many rooms as possible to support mixed modality
 - Two rooms this week will be outfitted with flat screen displays, cameras & mics
 - Will do trial run and then proceed to full outfitting
 - Use Summer 2020 to get rooms ready for Fall 2020
- **Modeling various scenarios for classes with appropriate distancing/spacing for the fall 2020 term.** Current guidelines suggest that if it remains necessary to implement social distancing measures, we would need to reduce the capacities in our classrooms by an average of 66%.
- Currently, there are 1,526 classes scheduled for the fall. Of those, 545 have a cap of 15 or under, 926 have a cap between 15-50 and 55 have a cap of >50.
- **To free up as much space as possible, we will explore the following options:**
 - Cancel sections with low enrollment
 - Push offerings that aren't necessary to spring
 - Investigate leveraging available space with neighborhood partners
 - Shift course times earlier in the day (we currently leverage less than 10% of our classrooms prior to 9am and 40% of our classroom space after 5pm)
 - Use virtual methodology for large lecture classes with enrollment of >50 with smaller in person discussion sections
- Prepare for more professional in-house production of online content
 - **Ad hoc committee** formed of academics, marketing & communications, spokesperson
 - **Partnering with EWTN.** Providing initial consulting. Longer term joint projects are the goal.
 - **Begin with 2 studios in this order:**
 - Install Studio with 2 or 3 robotic cameras, basic lighting, fiber. Use for online

course production and simple interviews and video production

- Larger classroom/studio with high ceilings for larger classes, creative content
- Goal is to have at least the first done this summer to support Fall 2020 and online courses