

## Provost Update to Senate August 20, 2020

### GRADUATE ENROLLMENT

- As of August 13, 2020, Fall 2020 graduate application statistics compared to Fall 2019 were:
  - 3.6% decrease in master's applications
  - 2.5% increase in master's admissions
  - 5.3% decrease in master's deposits
  - 2.4% increase in doctoral applications
  - 1.9% decrease in doctoral admissions
  - 8.7% increase in doctoral deposits

### INSTRUCTIONAL PLANS IN PLACE FOR FALL

- Thank you all for the tremendous amount of time and work you have put into preparing for our students and their education in the fall
- This is probably the most complicated and intensive thing we have ever undertaken and succeeded at as a university
  - THANK YOU!
- Working group report is here:  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1aA0YDSGeNbaIem-0chX6pknJLOh7t53ZIb53VKN1ay0/edit>

### CLASSROOM RETROFITTING

- 60 classrooms have been tested and approved by Technology Services for use.
- 14 classrooms have their final testing and approval scheduled for this week.
- 4 classrooms will be completed and tested the week of August 24.
- 4 classroom upgrades have been delayed pending completion of construction projects in the rooms.
- The full list of classroom upgrades can be found here: [Master Classroom Google Sheet \(DPL\)](#)

### CONTINUED TRAINING FOR FACULTY

- The Center for Teaching Excellence is continuing its suite of training for faculty to be ready for this new academic year:
- <https://centerforteaching.catholic.edu/>
- <https://provost.catholic.edu/teaching-excellence/events.html>
- Trainings are live, but are also recorded. There are multiple levels of training so that you

can take what you need based on your experience

- They have a variety of one page guides on the website (blackboard, zoom, accessibility and inclusion, pedagogy and assessment)
- New training sessions continue to be added and they will be doing drop in office hours
- CTE has hired a few new staff to support this permanently going forward
- Thank you to all who have helped with these, but especially thank you to Angela McRae

### **GLOBAL STRATEGIES**

- Catholic University of America signed an MOU with Brazil to cooperate with them on their upcoming bicentennial of independence (2022) through sharing materials in the Lima Library
- The signing of this MOU was broadcast live to the Senate of Brazil this week
- This was a big deal for us and them. It is a perfect example of us being an excellent global Catholic research university

### **RECENT AWARDS**

- Dr. Paul Scherz from STRS received grant funding from the Louisville Institute for a project titled “Risk, Virtue, and Theology” and as a subawardee from Villanova University on a Templeton Foundation grant titled “Collaborative Inquiries in Christian Theological Anthropology”.
- Dr. Erin Dawkins, a researcher from the Department of Physics, received a grant from NASA for a project “Understanding the lunar exosphere using NASA LADEE/UVS data”.