

Provost Update to Senate September 21, 2023

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.
- Career Fair is on September 22, 2023

VOLUNTARY SEPARATION PACKAGE

- A new voluntary separation package (“incentivized retirement”) is being considered.
- Just a few days ago, we shared a draft with CoFEW for their input. Hopefully, we can meet early next week to consult with them.
- I am happy to verbally share the goals and rough outline of the draft in the Senate Meeting this week if desired.

NEW FACULTY COLLEAGUES

- 26 new faculty joined the University this fall consisting of:
 - 12 new tenure-track / tenured faculty members;
 - 8 new clinical / of practice faculty members; and
 - 6 visiting faculty members
- The Faculty Orientation Extended group (all faculty within the first 5 years of their initial CUA appointment) will be led through readings and discussions on the topic: “Catholic Social Teaching: It’s More Than you Think!” The husband-and-wife team of Dr. Melissa Moschella, Associate Professor in the School of Philosophy, and Dr. David Cloutier, Ordinary Professor in the School of Theology and Religious Studies, will be leading this group, which will meet for a series of six discussions over lunch on selected Wednesdays throughout this academic year.

INSTALLATION OF NEW CHAIR HOLDERS

- [Dr. Santiago Solares](#) was installed on September 12, 2023 as the initial holder of the St. Albert the Great Endowed Chair in Engineering.
- [Dr. Jeffrey Herrmann](#) will be installed on November 13, 2023 as the initial holder of the St. Abbo of Fleury Endowed Chair in Engineering.

GRADUATE UPDATES

- Fall 2023 new graduate student enrollment is linked [here](#).
- Fall 2023 new law student enrollment is linked [here](#).

UNDERGRADUATE UPDATES

- Thank you for attending Convocation on September 13, 2023 and thank you to Dean John Judge for delivering a wonderful address to our first-year students.
- Progress Report Campaign during the week of September 25, 2023 - please respond for

all undergraduate students.

- Where possible, add comments for context.
- Midterm grades are due October 13, 2023 - faculty need to enter these for all undergraduate students.
- Alerts and referrals to Tutoring and Writing Center can be made via CardinalSuccess.
- Next Admission Open House is October 7, 2023.

ENROLLMENT

- Fall 2023 total headcount as of September 19 is as follows. A full report is linked [here](#).
 - Undergraduate 3140 vs. budget of 3071 (2.3% above budget)
 - Graduate 1641 vs. budget of 1662 (1.3% below budget)
 - Law 389 vs. budget of 437 (11.0% below budget)

NEW LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (LMS)

- Angela McRae, Danny Beason (CTE), and Tilmon Smith (Tech Services) are implementing the LMS transition plan from Blackboard to Brightspace.
- LMS Steering Committee meets monthly and has representatives from all 12 schools.
- Pilot of 18 courses is currently in place with 18 instructors and 309 students.
- Pilot continues in Spring; full implementation by Fall 2024.
- A comprehensive training program is being developed and will begin in Spring 2024.
- Positive responses so far from faculty and students using the system this semester.

RESEARCH DASHBOARD

- See this [research dashboard](#) documenting important variables for quantifying research activity as part of the current Carnegie Classification framework. It shows where we're doing well and what we need to work on.

Metric	FY19	FY20	FY21	FY22	FY23
STEM Proposals Submitted	112	104	108	112	135
Non-STEM Proposals Submitted	51	46	49	32	36
Value of STEM Proposals Submitted	\$49.2M	\$52.0M	\$137.9M	\$48.7M	\$61.8M
Value of Non-STEM Proposals Submitted	\$13.4M	\$15.5M	\$12.9M	\$15.6M	\$10.2M
STEM Research Expenditures - External Funding	\$21.0M	\$21.8M	\$23.2M	\$26.1M	\$34.5M
Non-STEM Research Expenditures - External Funding	\$2.2M	\$2.1M	\$6.9M	\$8.8M	\$4.57M
STEM Research Expenditures - Internal Funding			\$0.99M	\$0.65M	\$1.26M
Non-STEM Research Expenditures - Internal Funding			\$3.3M	\$2.6M	\$3.6M
Total Research Expenditures	\$23.2M	\$23.9M	\$34.4M	\$38.2M	\$43.93M
STEM Doctorates Awarded	26	25	16	15	18
Humanities Doctorates Awarded	37	33	20	24	11
Social Science Doctorates Awarded	6	3	5	0	2
Professional Doctorates Awarded	60	67	45	36	41

REPRESENTATIVE NEW GRANT AWARDS

- To Martin Ordiner, Physics/IACS, \$34,919 from National Radio Astronomy Observatory, for "NRAO Student Observing Support Award"
- To David Jobes, Psychology, A&S, \$56,932 from Rutgers University on a subaward from NIH, for "Adapting Treatments for Suicidal College Students"
- To Chigo Ngwira, Physics/IACS, \$47,706 from NSF, for "Participation of US Scientist in the African Geophysical Society Conference and ISWI School"
- To Lynn Mayer, Provost Office, \$87,536 from Jumpstart US, for "Jumpstart program"

- To Alex Kutepov, Physics/IACS, \$398,012 from NSF, for “Laboratory and Modeling Studies to Resolve a Grand Challenge for Upper Atmospheric Science“
- To Eun Koh, NCSSS, \$10,000 from University of North Carolina on a subaward from the Duke Endowment, for “Childrens' with Disabilities: Increasing Caregivers' Capacity and Improving Child Outcomes”
- To Zhaoyang Wang, Mechanical Engineering, \$134,167 from US Army Research Lab, for “Advanced AI-Powered 3D Sensing: Fast Speed, High Accuracy, Full Field-of-View, and Broad Range Capabilities”

REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

- From Venigalla Rao, Bacteriophage Medical Research Center,, \$3,500,000 to NIH for “Engineering Bacteriophage T4 as a Targeted Gene Therapy Drug for in Vivo HIV Cure”
- From Luke Burgis, Business, \$500,000 to John Templeton Foundation for “Solving the Three City Problem-Creating Interdisciplinary Conversations Around Important Ideas with Real-World Applications”
- From Santiago Solares, Mechanical Engineering, \$582,380 to George Washington University for a subaward from US Office of Naval Research for “DEEP-BONDS: Determining How Exopolymers Affect Erosion and Particle Resuspension-micro-Biology's Influence ON Deep Sediments”
- From Chris Raub, Biomedical Engineering, \$629,950 to NIH National Cancer Institute for “A Platform to Engineer Calcification and Fibrosis Into Tumor Stroma Models to Determine Roles in Cancer progression”
- From Jeffrey Herrmann, Mechanical Engineering, \$600,604 to NSF for “New Infrastructure of Collaborative Autonomy Testing (ICAT)”
- from Sepidah Akhbari Far, VSL, \$466,215 to NSF for “Band and Crystal Structure of New Defect Ruthenate Pyrochlores for Enhanced Thermoelectric Applications”

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES UPDATES

- *Library Page in Blackboard.* We now have a landing page in [Cardinal Learn Blackboard](#) that makes it easy for you and your students to link to essential library information. From wherever you are in Blackboard, click on University Libraries in the upper right of your screen.
- *Digital Scholarship Workshops.* The University Libraries and the Department of Library and Information Science are offering a [series of workshops on the theme of text data mining](#). Text data mining is the process of extracting valuable insights and patterns from unstructured textual data (documents, articles, social media posts, and more.) to analyze and interpret this information. Register through the Events page at the [Nest](#) or by contacting Kevin Gunn (gunn@cua.edu). All workshops will take place on Zoom, be recorded, and made available on the [Libraries' YouTube Channel](#). Among the workshops is *Using AI to Expand your Research Toolbox*, Friday September 29 at noon.
- *Departmental record management.* Special Collections, which includes the University Archives, recently completed a round of outreach to campus departments and offices

inquiring about potential record management needs. The majority responded, even if in the negative, though several declined to answer.

- In honor of Tolkien Week and Hobbit Day, please see the new exhibit in the Main Reading Room on the second floor of Mullen Library, [The Road Goes On: Exploring Tolkien's Influence Through Catholic U's Special Collections and Rare Books](#). In this exhibit, you will find not just people who have been inspired by Tolkien's work, but things that influenced Tolkien himself, and helped him shape Middle-earth as we know it today.

OFFICE GLOBAL STRATEGIES UPDATES

- 60 students are currently in the Rome Center.
- 16 exchange students are currently at CUA and 5 CUA students are in the Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Ireland and Spain.
- As a reminder, anyone traveling abroad on university business is kindly asked (required) to complete the [University Travel Registry](#).
- Any faculty member who has ideas for leading programs abroad should contact [OGS](#).
- Anyone interested in pursuing an agreement towards international collaboration with an international university should contact [OGS](#).