

Provost Update to Senate January 18, 2024

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- In light of the recent weather delays and cancellations, please be sure to have an updated instructional continuity plan in place for each of your courses.
- Also, please be sure that you are in communication with your students on your instructional continuity plan if the University has a delayed opening or moves from in-person to remote learning.
- Previous updates to the Academic Senate and faculty newsletters can be found at <https://provost.catholic.edu/newsletters>.
- It is extremely important and mandatory that instructors report midterm grades for undergraduates since this is a major factor in retention as well as good service to our students. (See more below.)

GRADUATE UPDATES

- The information shared in this section under the first two major bullet points is meant to provide some background data related to some of the discussion captured in item 6.b of the December 14, 2023 Academic Senate meeting minutes.
- Graduate New Enrollment, Total Enrollment, SCH Taken/Taught, and Degrees Awarded
 - [This sheet](#) (https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Otm_h1_o0qwznt5kWkD11YC2Y7wLA4bOjJ71WV-7qAg/edit?usp=sharing) provides on separate tabs by school/department the following data for the last three years:
 - Program characteristics
 - New student enrollment
 - Total student enrollment
 - Student Credit Hours (SCH) taken
 - Student Credit Hours taught (not yet fully fleshed out)
 - Degrees Awarded (does not yet include most recent academic year's data)
- Graduate Net Tuition Revenue by Plan/Program
 - [This sheet](#) (<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/19U4Lij1H4S8HnPM5tx3oxFEqdfERAcN7ZLxolTxgis/edit?usp=sharing>) shows Fall 2023/Spring 2024 graduate (excluding Law) net tuition revenue based on Fund 11/19 discounting only (that is, not including discounting from endowments and donors). Note that the data is taken from student accounts.
 - The sheet provides 5 tables and one graphic summarizing the data.
 - Some summary comments gleaned from the tables:
 - 35 of the 156 plans (that is, 22 % of the plans) produce 80 % of the graduate net tuition revenue. Note that a plan is included only if it has enrollment in either Fall 2023 or Spring 2024.

- Of the 35 plans that produce 80 % of the graduate net tuition revenue, the following 9 “programs” produce 70 % of the overall total
 - Social Work (MSW) 15.13 %
 - Engineering (several master’s and doctoral programs) 13.87 %
 - Seminarians (in TRS and in Philosophy) 10.19 %
 - Architecture (several master’s programs) 7.37 %
 - Canon Law (JCL) 7.17 %
 - Music (DMA) 6.77 %
 - Business (MSB) 3.69 %
 - Psychology (MA) 3.05 %
 - Library and Information Science (MS) 2.42 %
- Of the 34 TRS plans (33 degree plans + 1 non-degree plan), 3 of them (all seminarian plans) are in the top 35 plans that produce 80% of the graduate net tuition revenue
- Of the 51 A&S plans (39 degree plans + 12 non-degree plans), 6 of them (Psychology-MA, LIS-MS, Nanotechnology-PhD, Biotech-MS, Secondary Education-MA, and Human Rights-MA) are in the top 35 plans that produce 80 % of the graduate net tuition revenue. Note that A&S has one-third of the 156 plans, but represents approximately 16 % of the total graduate net tuition revenue.
- A breakdown of the total graduate net tuition revenue contributions from the A&S “programs” is:
 - Psychology + Library and Information Science 6.47 %
 - Biology + Physics 3.76 %
 - All humanities “programs” 3.44 %
 - All other “programs” 2.55 %
- A breakdown of the total graduate net tuition revenue contributions from Engineering “programs” is:
 - Electrical Engineering 3.64 %
 - Data Analytics 2.69 %
 - Computer Science 2.60 %
 - Civil Engineering 2.58 %
 - Biomedical Engineering 1.85 %
 - Mechanical Engineering 1.28 %
 - Engineering Management 1.17 %
 - Material Science 0.00 %
- A breakdown of the total graduate net tuition revenue contributions from Music, Drama, and Art “programs” is:
 - Music - DMA 6.77 %
 - Music - Other 1.25 %
 - Drama 1.13 %
 - Art 0.49 %

- Graduate Tuition Rates
 - Approximately a year ago, we undertook a restructuring (mostly lowering) of our graduate tuition rates. We began by focusing on master’s programs slated for growth/international recruitment. [This page \(https://enrollment-services.catholic.edu/costs/tuition-fees/2023-2024graduatelaw.htm#Tuition\)](https://enrollment-services.catholic.edu/costs/tuition-fees/2023-2024graduatelaw.htm#Tuition) shows the current academic year’s tuition rates.
 - For next academic year, we have expanded the restructuring (mostly lowering) of our graduate tuition rates by focusing on the remaining programs, particularly the doctoral programs. See [this page \(https://enrollment-services.catholic.edu/costs/tuition-fees/2024-2025graduatelaw.htm#Tuition\)](https://enrollment-services.catholic.edu/costs/tuition-fees/2024-2025graduatelaw.htm#Tuition) for next academic year’s tuition rates.
 - Note in particular the significant downward price adjustments for the doctoral programs of A&S, Engineering, Philosophy, Theology and Religious Studies.

- Graduate Discounting
 - Based on the data of the bullet point titled “Graduate Net Tuition Revenue by Plan/Program”, for Fall 2023/Spring 2024 (thus far) the graduate discounting and contribution to overall graduate net tuition revenue are:

	Discount Fund 11/Fund 19	Discount All Funds	% of Total Graduate Net Tuition Revenue Based on Fund 11/19 Discounting
Overall	27.1 %	31.0 %	100 %
Master’s Programs	16.5 %	19.8 %	77.7 %
All Doctoral Programs	53.1 %	58.9 %	18.9 %
Breakdown of 3rd row of data - Doctoral Programs (excluding DMA, DMIN, DNP, JCD)	64.6 %	69.7 %	10.9 %
Breakdown of 3rd row of data - DMA, DMIN, DNP, JCD	17.0 %	24.6 %	8.0 %
Non-degree and Certificate	10.7 %	11.0 %	3.4 %

Breakdown of the Doctoral Programs (excluding DMA, DMIN, DNP, JCD), that is, a breakdown of the fourth row of data in the table shown above:

	Discount Fund 11/Fund 19	Discount All Funds	% of Total Graduate Net Tuition Revenue Based on Fund 11/19 Discounting
Subset consisting of CE-PhD, CSC-PhD, ME-PhD, NANO-PhD, NURGO-PhD, SOCWK-PhD	15.8 %	22.8 %	4.5 %
Remaining Doctoral Programs	74.5 %	79.6 %	6.5 %

- Beginning with AY 2023-2024, Graduate Admissions began centrally allocating Fund 11 discounting to targeted master’s programs (both international and domestic applicants). In the coming weeks, the Dean of Graduate Admission, the Dean of Graduate Studies, and the Associate Vice President for Financial Planning will compare the actual discounting performance with the model (developed last spring) predictions and adjust the model as necessary.
- **Non-centrally allocated graduate discounting amounts for AY 2024-2025 will be communicated to the deans by January 31st.**

UNDERGRADUATE UPDATES

- **Progress Report Campaign:** We are scheduled to run it during Week 5 (week of Feb 5). Please plan to respond to the questions on how your undergraduate students are doing so that we can offer interventions as needed.
- **Midterm Grades:** These are due for all undergraduate students at the end of Week 7 (by Feb 23). Entering midterm grades is a key way to identify students who are struggling in their classes. This data is a critical component of our retention strategy. The UGS office will be notifying deans and departments regarding missing midterm grades during Week 8.
 - **It is mandatory for all instructors to report midterm grades for undergraduate students.**
- **Admission:** Cardinal Preview Day #1: This will be held on Saturday, Feb 17 (Honors Evening is Feb 16).

REPRESENTATIVE NEW GRANT AWARDS

- To Matthew Green, Politics, A&S, \$4,000 from American University subaward from Hewlett Foundation prime award for “Program on Legislative Negotiation.”
- To Peter Lum, Biomedical Engineering, \$447,183 from Edmond Scientific for “Autonomous Caregivers - AI Robotics.”
- To Min-Yang Chou, Physics - IACS, \$643,479 from NASA for “Understanding Complex Physical Process Behind Post-midnight Equatorial Plasma Bubbles.”
- To Ian PEgg, VSL, \$194,790 from Atkins Energy for “Atkins WRPS FY23 ILAW Glass Long-Term PCT Analysis.”
- To A. G. Harmon, Law, \$41,593 from Bradley Foundation for “Free Speech and Civility in American Law Schools.”
- To Rebecca Kiriazes, Civil Engineering, \$58,387 from District Department of Transportation for “Building Engineers for Safer Traffic (BEST) Program.”

REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

- From Carlos Yero, Physics, A&S, \$482,941 to NSF for “Studies of the Short-Range Nuclear Interaction in Deuterium.”
- From Grzegorz Kalicy, Physics, A&S, \$508,172 to NSF for “Unveiling the Mysteries of Exotic Mesons and Hyperons: A Comprehensive GlueX Data Analysis.”
- From Eun Koh, NCSST, \$37,809 to Catholic Charities for “Lifting New Mothers Out of Poverty Project.”
- From Hassan Akbari, Physics - IACS, \$701,110 to NASA for “Coupling of Solar wind and Ionospheric Plasma Due to Cross-field Drift Instabilities at Mars.”
- From Laura Masur, Anthropology, A&S, \$99,402 to The Conservation Fund for “Christian Devotional Artifacts in the Chesapeake, 1607-1800.”
- From Rachel Bartek, Physics, A&S, \$1,142,488 to NSF for “Experimental Particle Physics with CMS.”

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

- **Acing Research.** Last semester the Libraries began a series of instruction sessions designed to help students hone or update their research skills. Students may sign up for one of the four upcoming, in-person Acing Research sessions that will be offered in January, *Evaluating Sources* (1/23 at 3:00pm or 1/24 at 6:00pm) or *Database Searching* (1/30 at 3:00pm or 1/31 at 6:00pm) at <https://cua.libcal.com/calendar/>.
- **Spring Exhibit.** *Deity* showcases the ceramic art of Hadrian Mendoza, an instructor in the Department of Art. The 19 works on display in the May Gallery, Mullen Library, were created during a span of 14 years between 2009 and 2023. The overall theme for this exhibit explores subjects such as the Bulol rice terrace god from the Philippines, balance in sculpture, and functional objects that include vases, tea sets, and sake sets. This marks Mendoza’s 31st solo exhibition. On view through April 2024.
- **250th Archivist’s Nook posting.** Since its debut in 2015, [The Archivist’s Nook](#) has engaged the university community and beyond by highlighting the materials and services of [Special Collections](#) with blog posts authored by full-time staff, student workers,

volunteers, and the occasional guest researcher. The [250th post](#) was published last month. You may subscribe to receive the Nook, as well as other blog postings from the University Libraries, via email by visiting the site and scrolling to the option on the right hand side.

- **Museum Loan Inventory.** Special Collections will be conducting the annual inventory of the museum collections displayed around campus in January. If you or your department has borrowed items from the museum collection, your assistance with this survey will be greatly appreciated. If you have any questions about the inventory process or the pieces on display in your building, please contact lib-archives@cu.edu.

CUA PRESS UPDATES

- **Books.** Book sales through the end of December were up 11% over sales from the equivalent period last year. In the main, this is due to the Press's long-term strategy to acquire more books for use in courses.
 - New books in the Press's "bestseller" category include a number with Catholic University connections, such as Peter Ulrickson's *A Brief Quadrivium* and the late Tom Shelley's biography of former Catholic University professor John Tracey Ellis.
 - This past semester, we published the second volume of Pope John Paul II's collected works, a fresh translation of the Lublin Lectures. In addition, Archbishop Fisher's book *Unity in Christ*, a look at synodality, was published just before the synod gathered in Rome; 500 copies were distributed there ahead of the gathering.
 - Beginning in 2024, the Press will have a new book distributor (RPBS) in Mexico, Central America, and Latin America. This should result in greater visibility of the Press in this region, and enhance book sales.
- **Journals.** Beginning in 2025, the Press will publish the *Journal of Natural Law*. Effective this year, several of our newer journals will form part of the ATLA database collection, which should increase their reach into seminary libraries.