

Provost Update to Senate December 16, 2021

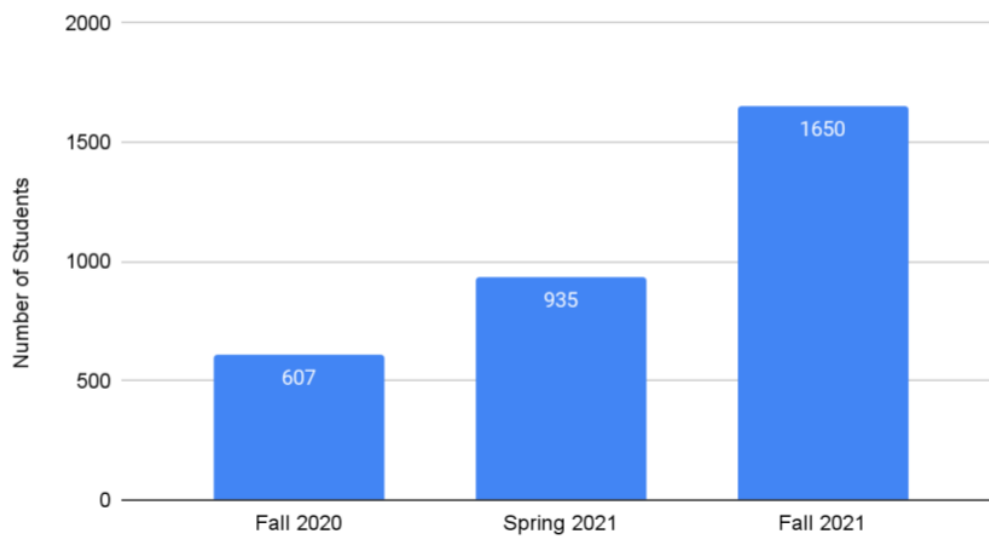
Dear Colleagues,

I want to thank all the faculty, staff, and students for a very successful semester. While there continues to be a number of challenges we are facing, we have come together as a community animated by our common mission to work through them. Thank you all you have done to serve our students and each other!

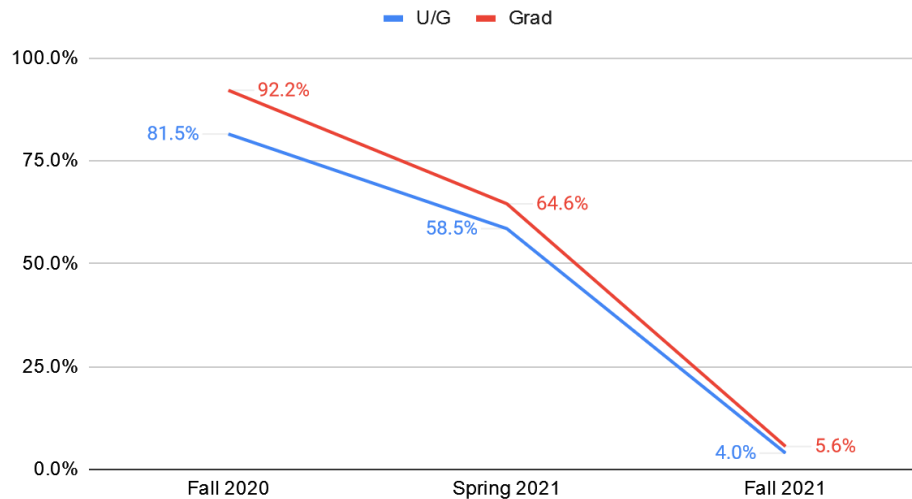
Copied below are two summary graphs that illustrate just how far we have come since the start of this pandemic. The first shows the number of students living on-campus by semester and the second shows the percentage of courses offered fully online to our students by semester.

While we do not know precisely what the future holds, we have set up our campus and learned how to adapt to the changing situation with flexibility. Thank you all again and have a great break, a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

On-Campus Residential Living During Pandemic



Percentage of Courses Online



WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER UPDATES

- The latest edition of the faculty newsletter was sent out on Tuesday, November 30 and was posted to the Provost website. The newsletter highlighted our faculty research and publication activity.
- The spring 2022 opening newsletter will be published on the first day of the semester (January 10, 2022).
- A reminder that all previous faculty newsletters can be found at <https://provost.catholic.edu/newsletters>
- All of my previous updates to the Academic Senate have been posted to the same website and are organized by academic year.
- Please encourage your colleagues to read the newsletter and visit the website for information of particular concern to the faculty and academic staff.

REPRESENTATIVE NEW GRANT AWARDS

- Lin-Ching Chang, EE/CS, \$170,166 from NIH Heart Lung, and Blood Institute for “Artificial Intelligence Algorithm and Computer Development for Cardiovascular Applications”
- Jeanne Moore, Nursing, \$2,000 from CVS Health Foundation for “Family Nurse Practitioner Scholarships”
- Ian Pegg, VSL, \$970,268 (total) from Atkins Energy Federal for “WRPS ILAW Glass Ion Exchange and Long Term PCT Analysis”, “WRPS MGS Grout Testing”, and “WRPS Capture and Hold for Iodine and Technetium in SLAW”

REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

- George Nehmetallah, EE/CS, \$289,919 to Teltrium Solutions for “Swarm Array Coherent Combining (SACC)”

- Jason Davison, Civil Engr., \$50,000 to Chesapeake Bay Trust for “Anacostia Watershed Waste Source Location Identification”
- Hieu Bui, EE/CS, \$100,000 to Siemens for “Bio-Inspired Advanced Computing Diagnostic Devices”
- Sandra Barrueco, Psychology, A&S, \$731,158 to DHHS/HRSA for “Integrated Behavioral Health in the Nation’s Capital: Interdisciplinary Networks for Substance Abuse Readiness and Experiences (DC-INSURE)”
- Rachel Bartek, Physics, A&S, \$727,498 to NSF for “CMS Detector Upgrades and New Physics Searches”

GLOBAL STRATEGIES

- Global Strategies hired a new Director of the Intensive English Program. Sister Margaret Andrew Baker, currently an instructor in the program, will start in January 2022. As I mentioned in last month’s report, Dr. Anca Nemoianu had served as the Director of the Intensive English Program for the past 17 years, and we are very thankful for her service. Sister Margaret Andrew definitely has some big shoes to fill following after Anca’s tenure in IEP!
- The Office of Education Abroad reports on the number of students going abroad for Spring 22:
 - 35 Rome (13 Architecture)
 - 4 British Parliament
 - 3 Oxford
 - 6 for other UK programs
 - 6 Spain
 - 1 Greece
 - 1 Costa Rica
 - 1 Thailand
 - 4 France
 - 2 Ireland
 - 1 Japan
 - 64 Total outbound students
 - 29 Total inbound exchange students (21 new, 8 continuing from fall)

LIBRARIES

- The University Libraries has recently subscribed to the Gale Digital Scholar Lab that enables students and researchers to access content and OCR data from the broad range of manuscripts and material in [Gale Primary Sources](#). Researchers can analyze these archives with text and data mining tools, rediscovering and interpreting the past through analysis and visualization of historical texts. In the Spring semester, Kevin Gunn, Coordinator of Digital Scholarship, will offer workshops on the Gale Digital Scholar Lab.
- On December 1, the WRLC Textbook Affordability Working Group hosted another *Faculty Perspectives: Open Textbooks in the Classroom and Funding Opportunities*.

Presenters this month were Bill Hanff, Professor in Digital Media, University of DC and CU's own Dr. Chelsea Kelly, Professor of Sociology. To date, 180 faculty have attended one of the WRLC *Faculty Perspectives* programs; over 60 faculty have taken advantage of the \$200 stipend opportunity funded by WRLC to submit a review for a book in the [Open Textbook Library](#); and 17 switched to using the open textbook they reviewed, saving students a cumulative total of \$21,311 in textbook costs. To learn more about Open Textbooks and Open Educational Resources, contact Kevin Gunn (gunn@cua.edu) or Joan Stahl (stahlj@cua.edu).

- A **[preliminary list of subscriptions and other packages restored](#) and newly bought using library fees thus far is now available. Most items selected were requested by faculty or otherwise meet known research and instruction needs. This list does not include individual book purchases which has increased with support of the fee.**
- The Oliveira Lima Library hosted a delegation of 12 Brazilian congresswomen and staff of the Supreme Court, including the former chief of the Brazil Supreme Court.