

Provost Update to Senate November 18, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

Here is a brief report of what we are all doing together and once again I thank you for your work. Please accept my apologies for my absence in today's Academic Senate.

WEBSITE AND NEWSLETTER UPDATES

- The next faculty newsletter is scheduled for release on Tuesday, November 30. This newsletter will be a highlight of research and publication activity by our faculty, activity for which I am most thankful!
- A reminder that all previous faculty newsletters can be found at <https://provost.catholic.edu/newsletters>
- At that same site, all previous updates to the Academic Senate have been posted and are organized by academic year.

SEARCH FOR PERMANENT DEAN OF NURSING

- As previously announced, the University has initiated a search for a permanent dean of the Conway School of Nursing, with the goal to have the new dean in place for next academic year.
- President Garvey has created a search committee consisting of:
 - Chair: Dr. Steve Brown, Vice-provost
 - School Faculty: Dr. Nalini Jairath and Dr. David Want
 - Other Faculty: Dr. Ann Corsi, Biology and Dr. Melissa Grady, NCSST
 - Undergraduate Student: Ms. Lily Boogaerts
 - Graduate Student: Ms. Darby Foor
- On Monday and Tuesday of this week, President Garvey met with the search committee and the Conway School of Nursing faculty, respectively, to discuss the search.
- The firm Odgers Berndtson will assist the committee with the search process.
- We invite all members of the Catholic University of America community to contribute to the search process by providing nominations or suggestions of potential candidates by contacting our search consultants (Maureen Ryan -- maureen.ryan@odgersberndtson.com).

FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS

- DC is modifying the indoor mask mandate; while masks will not be required in DC indoors as of November 22, 2021, we are considered to be a school and therefore still need to wear masks indoors.
- Travel guidance for faculty and staff over Thanksgiving was in the COVID Newsletter.
- Unvaccinated students will quarantine or test after Thanksgiving if they travel outside of the DMV.
- Spring semester will start in person as scheduled; unvaccinated students will return early to quarantine before classes start.

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

- The Office of Sponsored Programs (OSP) has sent a request to eligible departments and schools regarding the 2022 NSF Major Research Instrumentation (MRI) program. The university is limited to three submissions per cycle, and all interested faculty are asked to submit an abstract for potential projects to OSP by November 29th for review and downselection.

REPRESENTATIVE NEW GRANT AWARDS

- Valentina Braito, Physics IACS, \$6,118 from NASA for “Monitoring the extremely variable fast disc wind in MCG-03-58-007”
- Ian Pegg, VSL, \$71,400 from Atkins Energy for “IHI JNFL VGF tests”

REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSAL ACTIVITY

- Melissa Grady, NCSSS, \$23,925 to Fahs-Beck Fund for Research for “Development of TF-CBT for problematic sexual behavior for adolescents”
- David Jobes, Psychology, A&S, \$21,744 to American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (through Western Kentucky University) for “Sorting out self-harm from suicidal risk: A novel assessment”
- Maria Mazzenga, University Archives, Mullen Library, \$340,869 to Council on Library and Information Resources for “Adding voices to the choir: Expanding access to the history of African American and Spanish-speaking Catholics in the Washington, DC region, 1800-2015”
- Xiaolong Luo, Electrical Engineering, \$1,200,000 to W. M. Keck Foundation for “Membrane Proteins MicroChip (MP μ C): A biochemical patch clamp with specificity”
- Fr. Jude Deangelo, Campus Ministry, \$299,250 to Arthur Vining Davis Foundation for “Muslim-Catholic community building”
- Graham Kerr, Physics IACS, \$66,680 to NSF for “Constraining energy transport during solar flares: Observation and modeling of the HeI1083 nm and D3 587.6 nm lines”
- Nathan Roth, Physics IACS, \$257,791 to NSF for “Revealing the sulfur reservoirs in primitive environments: An interferometric study of cometary atmospheres and integration of astrochemical models”
- Martin Cordiner, Physics IACS, \$399,021 to NSF for “Investigating the chemical and dynamical complexity of Titans upper atmosphere”
- Gioia Rau, Physics IACS, \$227,164 to NSF for “Picturing the giants: A multi-wavelength investigation through the atmospheres of K-type evolved stars”

GLOBAL STRATEGIES

- Global Strategies is hiring a new Director of the Intensive English Program to start in January 2022 to replace Dr. Anca Nemoianu who will be retiring. Dr. Nemoianu has served as Director of IEP for 17 years and we are very thankful for her service.
- The Office of Education Abroad and the Conway School of Nursing are establishing a Nursing Track in Rome. The program will start in spring 2023. Nursing students will have the opportunity to spend the springs of their sophomore years in Rome. Nursing

courses will take a comparative approach between the U.S. and Italy, incorporating site visits to relevant organizations and facilities in Rome. Studying abroad in Italy will give students a broader perspective on approaches to healthcare and how culture can be a factor in healthy living as well as medical treatment. The application deadline for nursing students is March 15, 2022. To learn more, visit the [website](#).

LIBRARIES

- The Washington Research Library Consortium will host [Faculty Perspectives: Open Textbooks in the Classroom and Funding Opportunities](#) featuring a brief introduction to open textbooks and a panel discussion on Dec 1. The panel will feature three faculty members who teach with them, including Dr. Chelsea Kelley of CU's Sociology department. All teaching instructors attending will have the opportunity to earn a \$200 stipend by posting a review of an open textbook.
- The digital scholarship fundamentals workshop continues on November 30th with [Using OpenRefine for Cleaning Data](#). This workshop will use the open access software, OpenRefine, to clean, manipulate, and refine a dataset before analysis.
- At the request of the Student Government Association, Mullen Library is now opening at 11am instead of 1pm on Sundays.