

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost/Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: October 8, 2021

SUBJECT: Academic Affairs Report for October 2021

1. COVID 19 Update

Because the COVID-19 case activity remains high in Lackawanna and surrounding counties, we made the decision to extend our mask requirement and access restrictions at least through October 25. We will continue to update the campus community every Monday.

2. Strategic Enrollment Planning (SEP)

Once the Faculty Senate has selected members for the SEP Council, we will begin meeting. We will likely spend the remainder of the fall semester:

- Reviewing the progress of the first round of SEP initiatives
- Gathering and reviewing enrollment-related data
- Strategizing the process for 2022

In spring 2022, we will begin to form working groups and developing new action plans for future enrollment strategies.

3. Rank and Tenure

A public meeting to inform faculty of the rank and tenure policies and procedures was held in-person and by ZOOM on September 16th. Thirteen faculty have applied for tenure and/or promotion for 2021-2022 reviews. Four faculty are applying for full professor, four for associate and five for tenure. The deadline for submitting dossiers and CVs is October 22.

4. Curriculum Approvals

<u>New Program</u>	<u>Date Posted</u>
Film Production Minor	6/4/21

<u>New Course</u>	
NURS 252: A Global Perspective on Pregnancy, Childbirth and Infant Care	5/12/21
HADM 396: Comparative Healthcare Systems	4/15/21

5. Global Education

Study Abroad

There are 4 students currently studying abroad this fall semester. Two of the students are in Spain, one in Belgium and one in Italy.

The annual study abroad fair was held on September 14, 15, and 16th. We hosted in-person tables at the DeNaples Center to highlight faculty-led study abroad programs and virtual events on zoom were held with our overseas partners.

International Student Enrollment

Country	Graduate			Undergraduate			Grand Total
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
Bangladesh	1	1	2				2
Burundi		1	1				1
Cayman Island				1		1	1
China (PRC)	1		1	2	1	3	4
Colombia					1 (EV)	1 (EV)	1 (EV)
DR Congo	1		1				1
Egypt		1	1				1
Ethiopia		1	1				1
Ghana		1	1				1
India	8	13	21				21
Ireland				1	1 (EV)	2 (1 EV)	2 (1 EV)
Italy	1		1				1
Jordan	1		1				1
Malawi		1	1				1
Nepal				1		1	1
Nigeria	1	1	2				2
Pakistan	1	1	2	1		1	3
Philippines					1	1	1
Russia	1		1				1
Saudi Arabia	21	5	26	2		2	28
South Korea					1 (EV)	1 (EV)	1 (EV)
Taiwan					2 (EV)	2 (EV)	2 (EV)
Vietnam				1		1	1
Total	37	26	63	9	7 (5 EV)	16 (5 EV)	79 (5 EV)

Notes:

1. EV=Exchange students pursuing a full-time, non-degree seeking program
2. International students are defined here as students taking on campus, full-time, credit bearing courses under a F1 or J1 Student Visa
3. 27 new international students fall 2021. New countries represented are Ethiopia and Cayman Islands

6. Other Updates

- The Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) conducted the Level I readiness review of the application for candidacy status for CAA accreditation submitted on behalf of the master's program in speech-language pathology (M.S.) at the University of Scranton. The CAA approved the readiness application with an invitation it will be accepted as the official application. The program and sponsoring institution met all eligibility requirements, provided a comprehensive compliance development plan and documentation to support expected compliance at this stage and adequate support for continued development.
- The Center for Ethics and Excellence in Public Service (CEEPS) will be launched on October 14th.
- On Thursday, October 21, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. we will host a fall lecture in the Humanities with featured speaker, Father Columba Stewart, OSB, Executive Director of the Hill Museum and Manuscript Library, at St. John's University in Minnesota. The title of his presentation is: "Recovering the Voices of Our Ancestors: Preserving The World's Endangered Manuscript Heritage". The event will be held at The DeNaples Center, Moskovitz Theater, 4th floor.

Fr. Columba has traveled to some of the world's most dangerous places to preserve early Christian and Islamic manuscripts threatened by destruction from theft, unrest and war. He is among the few selected to present The National Endowment for the Humanities Jefferson Lecture, which is the highest honor the federal government bestows for distinguished intellectual achievement in the humanities.

- The Library will fund up to four Affordable Learning Initiative Grants for spring 2022 courses. The grant program incentivizes faculty to replace for-profit textbooks and other learning materials with free and appropriately licensed library resources. Applications are due on Friday, November 19, 2021.
- The Library's OER Committee will be hosting an informational session about the grants and available resources on October 27 from 11 am – noon at the Weinberg Memorial Library in Room 305. [Please R.S.V.P. to attend.](#)
- The Friends of the Library have reactivated some of their revenue generating activities. The annual Ann Moskovitz Leaves of Class raffle will host four drawings in 2022 that coincide with the four seasons. Please consider purchasing raffle tickets to support the Friends of the Library Endowment fund.