TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Harold W. Baillie, Ph.D.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: December 10, 2012

RE: Provost’s Report

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1. **FACULTY SEARCHES:**

We are conducting sixteen faculty searches; as of this date two have been successfully concluded.

1. **ADMISSIONS**

Hurricane Sandy has put a dent in our recruitment numbers but those numbers are stabilizing and beginning to recover. An open house was scheduled for the weekend after the storm hit. We held it, expecting a substantial decline in attendance. While there was a sharp decline, we had approximately six hundred families attend a day that went very well and seemed to be enthusiastically appreciated by those who attended. Early action decisions are out, but responses to those admissions decisions have a very loose relationship with what happens in the fall.

1. **CURRICULUM:**

**New Course: Date Posted**

HIST 245 History of Modern China 10/17/12

PHIL 415: Nietzsche 10/26/12

COMM 315: The Art of the Pitch 10/23/12

BIOL 102: Organisms, Evolution and the Environment 10/16/12

PS 340: September 11, 2001 and Beyond 2/15/12

**Course Change:**

NEURO 330: Neuroscience Research Methods 9/26/12

**Program Change:**

BCMB Major: change to cognate requirement 10/16/12

Neuroscience Research Methods 10/16/12

1. **SABBATICALS:**

**Fall 2013 Spring 2014**

Brian Carpenter Robyn Lawrence

Jones DeRitter Hong Nguyen

Kathleen Dwyer David Friedrichs

Debra Fetherman Maria Squire

John Levko Kimberly Subasic

Kathleen Dwyer Jennifer Vasquez

Catherine Lovecchio Lee Penyak

Kevin Nordberg

William Parente **2013-2014 Full Year**

Argyrios Varonides Marzia Caporale

Patricia Wright Mary Jane DiMattio

Rebecca Beal

**2013 Calendar Year** Meghan Rich

Michael Allison

**January – June 2014**

Michael Knies

1. **ACADEMIC AFFAIRS UPDATES:**

Ranking:

A new listing by *U.S. News & World Report* includes The University of Scranton among the nation’s “highly ranked universities” that operate “most efficiently.” Scranton is the only private university among just five “Regional Universities in the North,” and one of just 40 colleges in the nation, which have been recognized.

The list commends colleges “able to achieve the highest academic quality” while judiciously managing spending per student on “instruction, research, student services, and related educational expenditures.” We were the only private school recognized in its category.

The University and Gonzaga University are the only two Jesuit institutions listed.

Publications:

The Wall Street Journal has selected a new book by Dr. John Norcross “Changeology: 5 Steps to Realizing your Goals and Resolutions” as one of the year’s best books. It was among just six “best guides to later life” highlighted in the December 7th on line issue and (in print on December 10th.)

In the book, Dr. Norcross shares his science-based program for reshaping behavior and ensuring permanent change. He explains why the process of self-change is the same no matter what behaviors being altered and provides the steps and a structured timeline for lasting results.

Brown Bag Luncheon

A brown bag luncheon was held November 13, featuring a presentation by Ed Steinmetz on the basics of the budget. During the spring semester there will be further presentations on the budget and related matters for all interested in learning more about the administrative operation of the University.

**College Updates:**

College of Arts and Sciences:

* The college hosted a Community Round Table on gang influence and gang intervention, with representatives from the state legislature, local schools, and local law enforcement.
* On November 15, Roscoe O. Brady, M.D., senior investigator in neuroscience at the National Institutes of Health, delivered the annual Dr. Harry and Ethel Mullin Memorial Lecture.
* The College now offers first-year seminars in three residential Learning and Living Communities. We will add academic components to two new Learning Communities in the fall of 2013.
* On November 28, 2012, officials from the Electrical and Computer Engineering Honor Society, IEEE-*Eta Kappa Nu (HKN)*, came to campus to inaugurate a Scranton chapter of the society and initiate fourteen students and four faculty.

Panuska College of Professional Studies

* Interdisciplinary Collaboration with TCMC **-** On November 7 and November 15, PCPS faculty and dean’s office staff attended a simulation demo at the medical college. In addition to the tour of the simulation equipment and electronic medical records, the standard of care interview technique was also demonstrated. On December 6, 2012, students in Occupational Therapy and Exercise Science will be utilizing the Gross Anatomy Lab at TCMC to accomplish their program objectives.
* Faculty Brown-Bag Research Luncheons **-** The PCPS dean and associate dean will continue meeting with each PCPS department. The Brown Bag Research Lunches have been well attended. PCPS believes that research can only have impact if it is disseminated upon its completion. Several PCPS faculty have been granted a three-credit research release to move their projects forward and to advance the recognition of the college and university plus their professions’ learned societies.
* New Curriculum Programs in PCPS **-** Faculty in Occupational Therapy submitted a working draft for the post BS- Master of OT Program Proposal. Similar stand-alone graduate programs have been researched in NY, NJ, PA and CT. Proposal Summary: We propose a Post BS – Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy. It will consist of 79 total credits (4 semesters or 64 credits of coursework and 15 combined Level I and Level II Fieldwork). We would require students to have completed 27 credits of pre-requisites in the arts and sciences and present with GRE scores of 1000 or better. In the first class we would seek to admit a maximum of 15 students. This proposed program would seek new program developing status from the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) prior to admitting students followed by full ACOTE Accreditation. The proposal used both the current University of Scranton Occupational Therapy Curriculum as well as Post BS – Master of Science in Occupational Therapy programs in the area (New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania).
* PCPS Honors Program Committee **-** The PCPS Honors Program committee has drafted their outline of the proposal that will be submitted in January to the various curriculum committees on campus. They are in process of improving the sections listed below:

1. Executive Summary
2. Description of the Program
3. Relationship of Program to the University
4. Description of the New Curriculum
5. Course Descriptions and Objectives
6. Profiled Institutions and Programs
7. Anticipated Enrollment
8. Student Learning Outcomes and Assessment Plan
9. Organization and Management

Dr. Darryl DeMarzio, Education and Chair of this committee has been discussing a 3-credit “Professional Ethics” course that would be placed in the Spring semester of the 3rd year of the Honors Program. He met with Dr. Charles Pinches, Chair of Theology/Religious Studies. He is very excited about the prospect of having this course co-taught with a member of his department. This positive reception bodes well, obviously, for having the course approved for GE (P) credit.

* PCPS: Men and Women for Others (Service in Action) **-** The PCPS Blessing of the Books service project for freshmen is on-going with the Blessing taking place on December 6, 2012. PCPS freshmen collect children’s books; write messages in the inside cover; and deliver the collected books to their various service projects from local Scranton agencies, hurricane victims in the northeast, Appalachia, Haiti, the Native American Indian reservations to name just a few of the recipients.
* PCPS Accreditations
  + The directors of the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs (COA) are pleased to inform the Commonwealth Health/University of Scranton School of Nurse Anesthesia, Wilkes-Barre, PA, that continued accreditation has been granted. This decision recognizes the program for providing a graduate level curriculum leading to the award of a Master of Science in Nursing degree or a Post-Master's Certificate. A certificate designating this accreditation that is effective October 12, 2012, will be mailed under separate cover. Given this action of the COA, the program will be scheduled for its next consideration of continued accreditation in **Fall 2022**. Finally, the COA would like the program to know that very few programs are granted accreditation with no progress report required. Even fewer programs have achieved the maximum accreditation.
  + The Department of Education completed their site visit for TEAC. The panel will render a decision in April 2013.
  + The Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME) will complete their site visit on April 3-5, 2013.
  + The American Commission of Occupational Therapy Association (ACOTE) will complete their site visit in fall 2013.

1. **SENIOR FELLOW FOR INTERNATIONAL, CULTURAL, AND CIVIC PROJECTS:**

Ms Myers invited one of her former interns, Tine Hansen-Turton, executive director of a national association of nurse-directed health facilities to speak to the PCPS academic and administrative leaders with a focus on “disruptive innovation.” In addition she spoke at a seminar to community affairs leaders at TCMC.

Ms. Myers is planning the second semester Schemel Forum programs. We are adding a world affairs luncheon seminar and will now have six rather than five of them. These seminars attract good audiences and provide an opportunity for people in the community to get a broader and deeper understanding of our increasingly interconnected world.

Ms. Myers is co-teaching a first year seminar course on Preparing Students for Democratic Citizenship with Matthew Meyer, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philosophy.

1. **PERFORMANCE MUSIC:**

In addition to the regular weekly ensembles rehearsal schedule, student coaching, and dress rehearsals of student ensembles, as well as operational/administrative tasks of the department, the following special programs and performances were offered by the Performance Music department from September 15, 2012 through November 16, 2012:

* ***The Kyle Athayde Dance Party!*** Swing, Latin and Funk dance music from one of NY’s hottest young big bands (and yes, there WAS a dance floor and it was crowded!)
* ***In Recital*** with Adam Birnbaum, one of the top young voices in jazz piano ([www.adambirnbaum.com](http://www.adambirnbaum.com/))
* ***In Concert*** withthe internationally acclaimed New York Trumpet Ensemble,   
  directed by the legendary Mark Gould ([www.newyorktrumpetensemble.com](http://www.newyorktrumpetensemble.com/))
* ***In Recital*** with University of Scranton Performance Music students in solo, duo, trio, and chamber ensemble vocal and instrumental performances.
* ***In Concert***  with The University of Scranton Concert Band
* ***In Concert*** with The University of Scranton Jazz Band featuring guest artist Victor Goines, saxophonist with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra ([www.victorgoines.com](http://www.victorgoines.com/), [www.jalc.org](http://www.jalc.org/))
* ***In Concert*** with The University of Scranton String Orchestra
* In addition, student members of the ensembles provided music for a few special campus events, including Admissions Open Houses and the library dinner.

The **Annual Noel Night** was held on Saturday, December 1st. The chorus and band sang and played serious Christmas music to a packed house in Houlihan-McLean. The same performers held their annual **Empty Stocking Benefit Concert** December the following Tuesday, December 4th. Admission was a small toy, and the opportunity was to hear traditional Christmas carols.