

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Harold W. Baillie, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: October 4, 2013

RE: Provost's Report for October 2013

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**I. FACULTY SEARCHES:**

A combined ad will be placed shortly in the Chronicle of Higher Education announcing five tenure track faculty openings in five departments. The listings will also be posted to the Provost's website.

<http://matrix.scranton.edu/academics/provost/newfacpos.shtml>

**II. FACULTY DEVELOPMENT:**

**Intersession Grant Proposals:** We have received twelve Intersession Grant Proposals. The committee will be meeting shortly to discuss the proposals.

**III. COMMITTEES:**

**Faculty Handbook:**

The Faculty Handbook Committee continues to work on language concerning Visiting Professor's, Role and Rights of Faculty on Leave, Norms for Librarianship, Reappointment of Librarians, and Service Criteria for Rank and Tenure.

**IV. CURRICULUM APPROVALS:**

The following curriculum proposals were approved:

**Program Change:**

History Minor

**Date Posted:**

3/13/13

**New Course:**

PHYS 115: It's Only Rocket Science

3/13/13

**V. BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

The Board of Trustees met for a retreat September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. The weekend agenda consisted of a) new trustee orientation; b) presentation by Theodore Long of the AGB (ex-president of Elizabethtown) on the current challenges facing higher education (six issues: Cost; Value of Higher Education/Calls for

Accountability; On-line Learning; Reduced Ability/Willingness to Pay; Demographic and Generational Shifts; For-Profit Competition); c) Enrollment Picture for fall 2013 and for 2014; and d) review of May announcement regarding TCMC.

**VI. MIDDLE STATES**

We expect to hear the results of our Middle States Periodic Review Report in late November.

**VII. UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

Lilly Fellows Program Conference

The Lilly Fellows Program National Network of Church Related Colleges and Universities holds its annual National Conference each fall on one of the Network's member campuses. This year we are hosting the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference. Official representatives of all the Network colleges and universities meet to consider a significant issue of faith and learning, exchange ideas and practices regarding their mission, and foster the whole range of Network programs and activities. This year's conference theme is *Faith and Academic Freedom in Civic Virtue*.

Book Read and Dinner

The book chosen for this fall's discussion is *Not for Profit: Why Democracy Needs the Humanities*, by Martha Nussbaum. The dinner and discussion will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Currently there are thirty-one registrants. If you are interested, call the Provost's Office at ext. 7520.

**VIII. WELLNESS**

Work continued throughout the summer on a Student Wellness program. Because of the complexity of implementing a program during the summer alongside piloting *eloquentia perfecta* courses and concerns from the deans that needed to be ironed out, we agreed to delay implementation. A complete report will be presented to the Senate in November.