

TO: Faculty Senate

FROM: Joseph H. Dreisbach, Ph.D.
Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

DATE: November 4, 2016

RE: November, 2016

I. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

A number of high profile events occurred on campus since the last Senate meeting. I note three: The Weinberg Memorial Library sponsored the Royden B. Davis, S.J. Distinguished Author Award event on Saturday, 29 October. Tony Award winning playwright and director, Mr. Stephen Karam, author of *The Humans*, *The Sons of The Prophet*, *Speech and Debate*, and other works was the honoree. On Tuesday, 1 November, Dr. David Card, a recognized economist from the University of California, Berkely, was recognized at the Kania School of Management hosted Jack Kelly Dinner and Henry George Lecture. We must thank Deans Charles Kratz and Michael Mensah, and especially their advisory boards and staff for these hallmark events.

II. OPEN HOUSE

I thank all the faculty who contributed their time and talent to the University fall 2016 open houses. The commitment of these faculty is evident in their work and their willingness to spend time away from their family so to engage potential students and their families in conversations about study at The University of Scranton. We talk much about this faculty commitment to *cura personalis* and it is fully evident in these events.

III. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RECRUITING

International student recruiter provides an opportunity to examine our current recruiting structures. Mr. Mark Kopenski, Principal of Global Student Recruitment Advisors has been retained for six months. He will be managing international recruiting activities and structures. He will also engage in the recruiting process with the expectation that international students will continue to be enrolled during this period. Mr. Kopenski met with a variety of constituencies, including faculty, during his visit on November 1st and 2nd.

IV. RANK AND TENURE:

The rank and tenure process, as stipulated by the *Faculty Handbook*, is underway. Departments and deans will be presenting their evaluations of the candidates during the month of November, and the Board of Rank and Tenure will begin their review of December 13th. The Board on Rank and Tenure will meet on January 13th and 14th and 20th and 21st. We have 13 candidates this year.

V. FACULTY SEARCHES:

We are currently searching for 10 tenure track faculty positions and 1 faculty specialist. One department has been interviewing candidates. The listings are posted on the <http://matrix.scranton.edu/academics/provost/newfacpos.shtml>

VI. OFFICE OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT:

The OEA offered training for a new group of Provost Assessment Scholars, which was held at Chapman Lake at the end of October. Having completed the training, the students will work on a number of student assessment projects during the academic year. Thanks go to Nick Truncale, Mary Jane DiMattio and Geri Barber for offering this opportunity.

Save the dates for the 4th Annual Assessment Institute in January 2017. Dates are the last three Fridays in January. In addition, the OEA will be announcing its spring grant cycle for faculty development.

VII. FACULTY HANDBOOK UPDATE:

The Faculty Handbook Committee, the FPC and the faculty have agreed on language for the *Faculty Handbook* regarding 23.0 Application for Promotion/Tenure, 11.0 Non-medical Leave of Absence,

for region, occupation and other variables); the percentage of alumni employed within one year of graduation; loan default rates; net cost of attendance; graduation rates; and the number of years to graduate, among other factors.

In other national rankings published during the summer, *U.S. News & World Report*

U.S. News also ranked

in the country, and its business school No. 184 in the nation. *MONEY* magazine ranked
and *Forbes*

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Bible printed in multiple languages. The donated volume is the first Greek language New Testament printed in Western Europe (also printed in Latin). He donated it in memory of his great aunt Nellie Brown, who purchased it in 1931. She had been the first woman to take an evening course at St. Thomas College and went on to become a medical doctor. He also donated it in memory of his cousin Frank Brown who taught in the history department. The book will be featured in a rare book exhibit during spring semester in the Heritage Room.

The Heritage Room hosted a very well attended exhibit reception for