



Dear Faculty,

Welcome to fall 2020!

Thank you for your contributions and hard work during the successful transition of our campus from quarters to semesters. In all, more than 5,700 courses and 250 programs were discussed, reviewed and updated as part of the conversion process. Several faculty also used this as an opportunity to modernize their courses and enhance student experiences. And many of you participated in workshops over our shortened summer to hone online teaching skills and adapt courses for online learning.

While this academic year will undoubtedly be busy, there should be a notable reprieve as a result of the laborious efforts that have already occurred to move to a mostly virtual setting. Your dedication to ensure instructional continuity for our students during these challenging and uncertain times is commendable and appreciated!

This year, according to preliminary numbers, we welcome nearly 5,100 students to our campus. Approximately 2,300 are first-time freshmen and nearly 2,800 are transfer students.

We also welcome 49 tenure-track faculty who bring a wealth of experiences and expertise to our campus community. You can learn more about them in the attached 2020-21 New Tenure Track Faculty Hires booklet.

Also attached is a copy of Academic Affairs Annual Report for AY 2019-20, which highlights some of our outstanding accomplishments that occurred last year. You can also learn more about our continuing divisional priorities in the accompanying Academic Affairs Divisional

Goals and Objectives for AY 2019-21.

As previously shared, I am providing 3 WTUs of reassigned time to untenured faculty during the 2020-2021 academic year to support the transition to semesters and the professional growth of our early-career, tenure-track faculty. This reassigned time applies only to faculty who are in years 3 to 6 of their appointment, are untenured in 2020-2021, and who are no longer receiving reassigned time per the CBA or the employment contract. Future reassigned time will be revisited and is dependent on funding.

I look forward to partnering with you this academic year. We will be launching a “Spousal Hiring Task Force” to begin examining the value of a future policy on spousal hiring. More information to come. Please feel free to email me with any questions. And join me at Pastries with the Provost, an informal opportunity to network with your colleagues, ask questions and share ideas. The first one is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 1 at 9 a.m. via Zoom; an invitation is forthcoming.

Have a wonderful week!

Best,
Shari

Shari McMahan, Ph.D.
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

WE DEFINE THE *Future*



New Hire Booklet
2020 with headers.p



AA Annual
Report_2019-20_Fin:



Academic Affairs
Divisional Goals rev: