

## **University Faculty Meeting**

Friday, November 13, 2020

Noon- 1:15 PM

Via Blackboard Collaborate

### Agenda:

1. **Introduction and Welcome** (Noel Painter)
2. **Successful Academic Progress** (Ray Nault, Interim VP of Enrollment Management and Heidi Goldsworthy, Director of Financial Aid)
3. **Spring Planning: gateway testing, early January campus access, spring tiers** (Terri Radwan, Professor of Law and Safer Stetson co-chair; Colleen Vanderlip, Director of Wellness and Recreation)
4. **Faculty Senate: Anti-racism commitments and updates** (Alan Green, Faculty Senate Chair)
5. **End of Semester Address from the President** (Chris Roellke)

*The meeting was called to order at 12:01 PM*

**Provost Noel Painter** welcomed the group and thanked them for their time, and for attending the final fall semester faculty meeting. Everyone is looking forward to the end of the semester, but later when we look back we can be quite proud of what we have accomplished. He encouraged faculty in the last few weeks to find a way to celebrate achievements of this semester; to find your “pockets of joy” as we move toward the end of the semester.

**Provost Painter** mentioned that the Christmas Candlelight concert will be presented virtually this year and shared a link for anyone who is interested in viewing (<https://www.stetson.edu/music/tickets.php?ad=160721>).

**Dr. Tandy Grubbs** announced that just this morning, the university was awarded an NSF S-STEM grant of almost one million dollars over five years. This is a collaborative effort from faculty in science, technology and mathematics. It will support 32 students over 2 years drawn from a variety of disciplines and supported by multiple faculty. The current plan is to bring in 16 students as a cohort, they will take the same FSEM, sophomore level courses and JSEM to help build cohesiveness. George Glander will join as a STEM administrator to help guide the project. Dr. Grubbs noted that the NSF S-STEM team includes (Project Management Team): Lynn Kee, Holley Lynch, Will Miles, Ben Tanner, Camille King (Social Scientist/Assessment), and George Glander (STEM Administrator). He also noted a special thanks to Sidney Johnston and the rest of the grants office team for shepherding the grant preparation process.

**Provost Painter** shared with the group that the agenda item to discuss Zoom meetings is being postponed until Spring due to illness of one of the presenters. Instead, he invited Ray Nault and Heidi Goldsworthy to present to the group.

**Mr. Ray Nault and Ms. Heidi Goldsworthy** – Reviewed Academic Advising and Student Success – they reviewed satisfactory academic process (SAP) as related to financial aid eligibility– *Qualitative (min 2.0 GPA), Completion Rate (67% of credits), Max Timeframe (cannot exceed*

*150% of published timeframe*). They reviewed how the standards of Satisfactory Academic Progress are applied, examples of ways a student may not be meeting the requirements, and potential solutions if someone is not meeting any of these required criteria.

**Provost Painter** noted that Ray and Heidi have been seeing a higher number of students who are falling into these situations and that they would like to be sure the faculty are aware of the appeals process and Stetson's ability to assist our students. Lower GPA and the completion rate issue are the two most common situations we see where faculty would have the potential to intervene.

Moving into spring semester there are several things we will be dealing with that are not in our normal circumstances, some of those include an adjusted academic calendar, COVID gateway testing, and changed protocols for students returning to campus. Terri Radwan, Professor of Law, and Colleen Vanderlip, Director of Wellness and Recreation will discuss the Stetson tiers system and what we will be looking at in spring.

**Professor Radwan** reviewed the Tiers system that Stetson set in place in spring 2020. Since COVID began Stetson's campuses have mostly been under tier one; we moved briefly into tier 2 this semester, but have recently moved back to tier one due to increased transmission rate and positive cases on campus. Returning in spring we will be in tier one again, though hope to return to tier 2 shortly after spring semester starts. There is not marked difference between tiers 1 and 2 in the classroom; rather, the differences are largely for residential students (the ability to have guests in their room (tier 2) or not (tier 1), and impact groups/gatherings on campus.

**Ms. Colleen Vanderlip** discussed COVID Gateway testing—January 9 – 13 in DeLand—which will take place the first week of spring before classes begin. All faculty and staff who will be working on campus are required to undergo gateway testing. Faculty and staff are encouraged to sign up for their testing. There is no cost to participants. After testing has been conducted, participants will be able to verify their participation in gateway testing through a wristband and a daily email verifying the requirement has been met. There will be volunteer testing events in the spring as well.

**Provost Painter** noted that the administration is working to identify what employees really need to be on campus during the week of January 4 – 9. Faculty can come to campus and be in their own personal offices but should avoid groups or meeting with other faculty during that timeframe.

**Dr. Alan Green**, faculty senate chair discussed the Faculty Senate's work on anti-racism. The commitment focuses chiefly on two areas – curriculum and representation.

Dr. Green discussed the current curriculum and the senate's commit to leading a broad conversation with faculty on changes to ensure students learn about systematic racism through changes in curricular requirements.

Dr. Green also discussed the current representation of the faculty, including membership of the two representative bodies (faculty senate and UCCAP) and ways to improve membership in Stetson's governance systems. He also discussed why representation is important and the

principles of faculty representation as proportionate to the size of the given units of the University.

**Provost Painter** mentioned that the President's cabinet will meet next week and that all members have been asked to make commitments based upon the results of the recent campus climate survey.

**President Roellke** thanked the faculty. He noted that the sentiment he wants to express is one of gratefulness; he is deeply grateful to faculty for embracing the themes of agency and empathy, we should keep them near and dear to us as we move forward as an academic community. President Roellke noted that he has been describing us as swimming in the deep end for many months. Everyone has served as incredibly reliable life preservers and buoys for this time. Despite our challenges, Stetson is not alone, the entire higher ed industry is going through the same thing. Behavior is what will help us best in mitigating this virus and allow us to get back to normal. Stetson has an incredible spirit of collaboration that is growing stronger. He noted that he wishes the faculty nothing but the best, and urges them to stay safe and well. Go Hatters.

**Provost Painter** mentioned that the faculty senate and President Roellke are working on an opportunity in December for some engagement with the President. Currently we are focused on finishing the next week-and-a-half and getting through exams. He encouraged faculty to take the time to breathe deeply and know that they have navigated in a stellar fashion something that none of us could have seen happening. He thanked faculty for all they are doing for Stetson.

Meeting adjourned at 1:06 PM