

University Faculty Meeting

Friday, January 15, 2021

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Agenda—12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.

1. Welcome (Noel Painter)
2. Safely Starting the Semester
 1. Safer Stetson Task Force (Lynn Schoenberg)
 2. Campus Safety during Inauguration Week (Cisco Ortiz and Lua Hancock)
3. Accreditation: QEP (Michael McFarland and Stacy Collins)
4. 2020 HERI Faculty Survey (Alan Green)

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 noon

Provost Noel Painter welcomed everyone, shared his hope that everyone had a nice and restful break. A lot has happened since we last met, including in mid-December nine in-person graduation ceremonies between DeLand and the College of Law. All were masked, socially-distanced events and the appreciation from the students was palpable. Our persistence is better than we had hoped, we will have a clearer picture of the spring numbers after census. There is a second round of CARES funding that will help mitigate financial strain for the University.

Today, we will spend a little time talking about Safer Stetson, a little about our preparations with DeLand police department around the US presidential inauguration, and a little time talking about our accreditation and QEP.

Lynn Schoenberg, Dean of Students discussed the Gateway testing program that took place in early January. She reminded everyone to wear their green bracelets through the end of January and to have their confirmation email if they have forgotten or lost their bracelet. If you see someone without a bracelet refer them to wellness stations to get tested. If a student does not have a bracelet or the confirmation email they should not be in class; they should be sent to the wellness stations. There are some students who are registered for classes or housing who have not yet been tested and the Safer Stetson group are doing active follow up with them. Attending classes virtually is allowed, but not physically.

Overall the testing went well, though there were some issues that we will continue to address. We will do something different for testing for the upcoming weeks. The mitigation plan overall is working as we would like it to work. Currently, Stetson is in Tier 1, there is a detailed document on the Safer Stetson page that breaks down the Tier 1 definition. We have learned things in fall that are important; our transmissions have not occurred in the classrooms, thank you for following protocol to help with this. Transmissions are happening in large person gatherings like restaurants and bars; this is true not only for students but also for faculty and staff. Future testing will change a good deal, we are starting to offer a saliva- based PCR test starting next week. We do mandatory testing for 700 students and student athletes every two weeks. The testing is just one piece of the mitigation strategy. We are diligently looking at the best program

for vaccine for Stetson community, if you have the ability to get vaccinated we encourage you to do so. There is a vaccine sub-group working with other ICUF schools advocating at the state-level that higher ed institutions be included in vaccine programs.

Several questions arose regarding attendance policies and Provost Painter noted that the attendance policy is within full control of the faculty, there has been a lot of diligence to move some classes back to face-to-face.

Cisco Ortiz, Director of Public Safety thanked everyone for the opportunity to discuss security efforts. Currently, there are plans for protests at all 50 capitals next week and possibly as early as this weekend. We are not aware of any credible threats to DeLand or Volusia county, Stetson Public Safety are working with local law enforcement and have hired DeLand Police Department officers to be with us on Tuesday and Wednesday. We will add additional personnel if necessary if anything happens this weekend. Campus is on card-swipe access only. Please bring it to our attention if you see anything of concern.

Provost Painter noted that President Roellke's email yesterday mentioned adding a number of activities this weekend. Thursday of next week there is a special instance of the regular webinar series with several faculty members with experience in the area of politics, free speech and law.

Stacy Collins and Michael McFarland discussed Stetson's accreditation efforts and the QEP. It will take a lot of effort over the next few months to get ready but want to provide a brief update. This is the second year, the group last year chaired by Megan O'Neill and Stuart Michelson, did a lot of the ground work and the heavy lifting. The goal is to take their work and turn it into a plan. SACS is not asking us to solve every problem. The committee plans to pick one thing to enhance to make things better for our students. Over the next couple of months, the committee will ask for your input and support with suggestions and corrections. In January and February, the committee will be able to build draft of the QEP Plan; in March the committee plans to do surveys and gather feedback; in April they will solidify the plan and hand off to the writing team. The committee will email breakdown of timeline so you can reach out with any questions.

Provost Painter stated that he can't emphasize enough the importance of this work. Rick Tysor has been the shepherd through this entire process. Accreditation is not an easy process, we are already seeing the effects of our accreditation efforts. He thanked Rick and the team for all of the work that has gone into this thus far.

Provost Painter noted that the rest of the meeting would be dedicated to the HERI and faculty satisfaction surveys and that he would turn over the meeting to Alan Green, Faculty Senate Chair.

Dr. Alan Green, Faculty Senate Chair, reviewed the results of the HERI and faculty satisfaction surveys for spring 2020. The surveys included assessment of levels of satisfaction with

- Overall faculty satisfaction
- Childcare options
- Compensation
- Teaching load
- Advising load
- Research and professional development

- Service commitments
- Diversity climate
- Work environment and faculty agency
- Relationship with administration

Dr. Green noted that a follow up survey will be conducted, possibly at the end of the term. The full presentation is available, along with the meeting minutes, on the Provost's website.

Provost Painter noted that in normal times we would take a moment to introduce and welcome all new faculty and staff at our all-campus meetings. Due to the unique situations of this year we have not had that opportunity. He invited Dr. Rosalie Richards, associate provost for faculty development, to introduce new faculty.

Dr. Richards introduced Latifa Abdelli, a new visiting faculty in the department of Health Sciences.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM