

Academic Affairs Update

James J. Winebrake, Ph.D.

April 16, 2021

Dear Faculty and Staff in Academic Affairs,

This communication provides an update on various happenings in Academic Affairs. I will address some of these items at the Coffee Hour on Friday (4/16) at noon, but you are also welcome to contact me with any comments or questions on what you read below. It is a long email – so, I have added a “Communication-in-Brief” segment at the top to provide you with a snapshot of what is covered in this update. I also apologize for any formatting issues that arise during the document-to-email translation, and I have included a PDF of these updates in case your email client does not handle the formatting below very well.

Thank you for all you are doing to help us successfully close out what was a very challenging year. I hope you have a great weekend!

Best regards,

Jamie

Communication-in-Brief. This communication includes updates on the following activities in Academic Affairs:

- *Supplemental Pay Policy Pilot Project*
- *Summer and Fall 2021 Courses*
- *Change in Residency Policy for Military-Affiliated Students*
- *Interdisciplinary Task Force Efforts*
- *SCH Reporting and Interdisciplinary Programs*
- *SACSCOC*
- *Quality Enhancement Program*
- *Administrative Searches*
- *Strategic Design and Planning*

The communication also includes some upcoming events and a table with links to previous communications and updates.

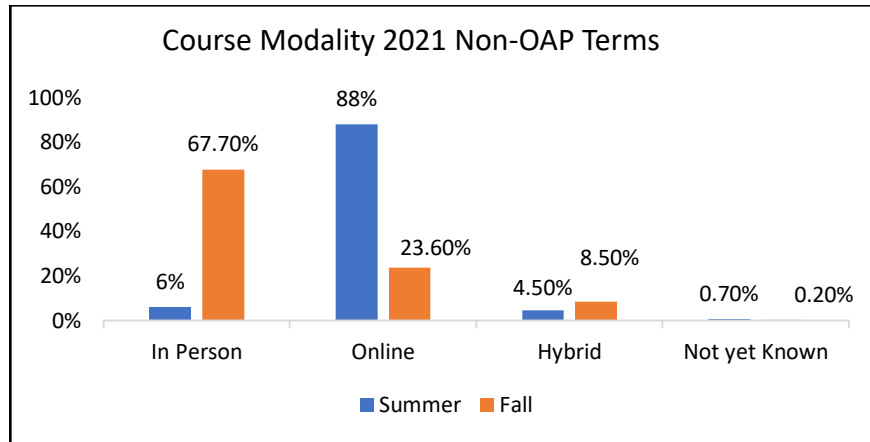
Updates

Supplemental Pay Policy Pilot Project

Academic Affairs Resource Management, with the support of the deans and me, will pilot a practice through August 2021 whereby supplemental compensation policies are reconfigured such that supplemental payments using university funds does not count against a faculty member’s maximum allowable amount from sponsored projects. Please look for more details to come from the business officers and/or grant offices to impacted faculty members.

Summer and Fall 2021 Courses

Course modalities are beginning to look more “typical” as we get closer to the Fall 2021 semester. A breakdown of Summer and Fall semesters (as of April 14) is shown in the figure below. About 68% of our non-OAP courses will be “in-person”; ~24% online; and ~8.5% hybrid.



Change in Residency Policy for Military-Affiliated Students

There has been a change in residency policy that may affect a small percentage of our military-affiliated students who attend UNCW directly out of a NC high school. The new policy allows incoming students who receive in-state tuition based on the military tuition benefit to continue receiving in-state tuition even if the active-duty parent/guardian is transferred out of NC. Please direct questions to Freeman Whitney or Amanda Fleming.

Interdisciplinary Task Force Efforts

The Interdisciplinary Task Force (technically, the *Task Force on Creating and Facilitating Interdisciplinary Teaching and Research*) has been established and held a kick-off meeting on March 30. This Task Force was charged by Dr. Nathan Grove and me to identify barriers to interdisciplinary teaching and research and to “make recommendations on policies and practices we can implement to reduce these barriers.” The Task Force is co-chaired by Dr. Kemille Moore and Dr. Shawn Bingham. Other members of the Task Force include:

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|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| Cem Canel | Director, Congdon School |
| Ulku Clark | Professor, Information Systems |
| Nathan Crowe | Assoc Professor, HST |
| James DeVita | Assoc Professor EDLEAD, WCE |
| Emmanuel Harris II | Professor, AFN and SPN |

Josalin Hunter-Jones	Assistant Professor, SWK
Joseph Long	Assistant Professor, EOS
Beverley McGuire	Professor, PAR
Laurie Patterson	Assoc Professor, CSC
Nivine Richie	Assoc Dean, CSB
Nathan Saunders	Assoc Director, LIB Special Collections
Dana Stachowiak	Director WGS and Assoc Professor, WCE
Bill Sterrett	Assoc Dean Outreach, WCE
Elizabeth Woodard	Assoc Professor, SON

The Task Force established two working groups: *Interdisciplinary Definitions* and *Interdisciplinary Barriers*. The groups will use the rest of the spring semester to gather information and perspectives that will help formulate concrete recommendations and solutions in the coming year.

SCH Reporting and Interdisciplinary Programs

Speaking of barriers to interdisciplinary teaching, I am happy to report that Academic Affairs Resource Management, Institutional Research and Planning, and the Office of the Registrar have worked this semester to improve institutional reporting of SCH data to better recognize departmental/school contributions to interdisciplinary programs. The issue has been that SCHs are historically reported by course prefix. Beginning this summer, in addition to reporting SCHs by course prefix, we will produce a report that shows SCHs by the department of the faculty of record for interdisciplinary courses and course prefix in other cases. This will ensure that units that have faculty members teaching in interdisciplinary programs have those SCH reflected on SCH reports distributed to the Colleges.

SACSCOC

UNCW has kicked off the SACSCOC ten-year reaffirmation process. The work will intensify in fall as we identify faculty who will be involved in the numerous workgroups needed to address UNCW's compliance with the forty SACSCOC standards. This is a huge undertaking that will be led by Dr. Andy Mauk, Associate Provost for Institutional Research and Planning and SACSCOC Liaison, and faculty member Dr. L.J. Randolph. Thank you to Andy and L.J. for taking on these leadership roles and helping guide our reaffirmation process.

Quality Enhancement Program

As part of SACSCOC reaffirmation process, the campus will identify a new Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), an initiative to improve the quality of student learning and success. As you know, our last QEP was ETEAL – Experiencing Transformative Education through Applied Learning, which has since become a cornerstone of the UNCW student experience. Faculty representatives will comprise a QEP Selection Committee to lead the QEP selection process. Committee Co-Chairs are Dr. Carol McNulty, Dr. Kate Noonan, and Dr. Narcisa Pricope. The QEP is submitted for review six weeks prior to the SACSCOC on-site review, which is March 28-30, 2023.

Administrative Searches

Two searches for senior administrative positions are underway. These are:

Executive Director, Center for Marine Science. The search for a permanent executive director of the Center for Marine Science is entering its final stages. Three finalists will conduct virtual interviews over the next week. The campus will have an opportunity to engage with the finalists in various ways and to share their observations about the finalists through appropriate feedback mechanisms. The co-chairs of the search committee are Dr. Stuart Borrett and Dr. Jen McCall.

Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The search for a permanent dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is moving forward. The committee has identified a set of semi-finalists to interview over the next two weeks. Following those interviews, the committee will identify a set of finalists for virtual interviews with campus stakeholders prior to Spring Commencement. The co-chairs of the search committee are Dean Charlie Hardy, Dr. Ann Pabst, and Dr. Colleen Reilly.

Strategic Design and Planning

The Strategic Design and Planning process invites us to refine our institutional values, map our current initiatives, and prioritize our aspirations as we define the future of our university. Planning for the design process will be in full swing AY21-22. The next step in this process is to identify an inclusive Steering Committee that will include faculty, staff, students, and administrators representative of the larger campus. The Steering Committee will meet during the summer to establish a framework to garner input from multiple constituencies both internal and external to the campus community. There will be multiple opportunities and ways to engage in this process, and more information will follow in the coming weeks.

Upcoming Events

Spring Faculty Meeting

[Zoom ID: 864 5156 7338; Passcode 890451](#)

April 27; 4:00-5:00 pm

We will celebrate the end of the academic year at our virtual spring faculty meeting. Dr. Nathan Grove will provide a report from the Faculty Senate and we will recognize BOT and Scholar Award winners and retiring faculty from the previous two years.

Coffee Hours

[Zoom ID 981 8693 4542; Passcode 525064](#)

April 16 and April 30; 12:00-1:00 pm

Two Coffee Hours with the Provost and Faculty Senate President remain for the semester! Please join us on 4/16 for an open conversation on anything that is on your mind. For our last Coffee Hour on 4/30, we will be joined folks from the Office of University Relations, who will give us a sneak preview of the new university website and invite faculty and staff feedback.

Board of Trustees Meeting

<https://uncw.edu/bot/mtgschedule.html>

April 29 and April 30

The UNCW Board of Trustees will hold their last meeting of the academic year on April 29-30. The website listed above provides an agenda and materials for the meeting. Please contact Ann Freeman at freemana@uncw.edu for additional information.

Reminders of Recent Communications

Please see below for other communications related to Academic Affairs that were distributed previously. Other past messages from me can also be found [here](#).

Topic	From	Link to Communication	Brief Overview
APLU/IEP survey request from Chancellor Sartarelli	OUR	Look for link to be posted here .	On April 15 Chancellor Sartarelli emailed a request for faculty to complete a survey regarding UNCW's Innovation and Economic Prosperity (IEP) designation application.
Health and Vaccines	OUR	April 13	UNCW paused the administration of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine as of April 13 based on state and federal guidance. OUR will continue to keep us updated on developments.
Organizational Alignment Efforts	Provost	April 9	I held a town hall on March 26 and followed up with an email on April 9 to update you on the organizational alignment efforts. Please continue to reach out with any thoughts/concerns you may have as the discussions continue in various venues.
Chancellor's Updates on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion	OUR	April 8	Chancellor Sartarelli announced the launch of an initiative, Excellence in Equity and Inclusion, to bring discussions, lectures, presentations, and other professional development to the UNCW campus. This initiative is a collaboration among Human Resources, the Provost's Office, the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, and the Swain Center for Executive Education in the Cameron School of Business.
Spring Commencement and Orientation	OUR	March 26	Virtual and in person ceremonies (15% capacity) are planned. Students must RSVP by April 20. All Department/School ceremonies are to be held virtually. More information shall be provided by OUR regarding commencement in the coming days.

[END]