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Subject: Academic Affairs First Monday Email for June, 2023
Date: Monday, June 5, 2023 6:28:35 PM
Attachments: [NCFDD Summer 23 Events 2 .pdf](#)
[SU \(Fall 2024\) Gen Ed Program One Sheet.pdf](#)

Greetings and congratulations on another successful year!

With ~1300 students graduating in May, we wrapped up another academic year. My thanks to each of you for the important roles you played in our students' success. Thanks as well to our head marshals (**Lisa Marquette** and **Scott Mazzetti** (CHHS), **Shawn McEntee** (Fulton), **Yaping Jing** (Henson), **Aaron Johnson** (Perdue), and **Amber Meyer** (Seidel)), mace bearers (**Lisa Seldomridge** (CHHS), **Kathleen Shannon** (Henson) and **Kashi Khazeh** (Perdue)), and everyone who attended or volunteered their service for these important events.

In addition to successfully supporting students to graduation, we also see positive **new student enrollment trends** for Fall 2023 in all areas (first-time, transfer, graduate, regional centers, out-of-state, under-represented groups, and international) relative to the same time last year. Thanks to our Admissions team, the Office of Graduate Studies & Research, all the graduate directors, Regional Centers staff, and everyone who has supported a robust incoming.

I'm also very appreciative of all the work that has gone into developing a framework for course approval and the more than 225 courses proposed for our **new General Education curriculum** (new GE One-sheet is attached). This work represents a tremendous effort by the course proposers, the [General Education Oversight Committee](#) and its subcommittees, the Faculty Senate, and staff in the Provost's and Registrar's Office who support the workflows and platforms associated with the curriculum review process, Gullnet, and the Academic Catalog.

Thanks as well to the 2022-2023 **Faculty Senate** (FS) which had a very productive year. Their efforts resulted in the approval of several recommendations that increased special session (Winter and Summer) compensation, facilitated decision-making for the new GE curriculum, incorporated statements on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in the Faculty Handbook, and ensured the inclusion of DEI in annual, tenure, and promotion evaluations. FS President **Jennifer Martin** (SU Libraries) did an amazing job facilitating discussions and leading the meetings. Please join me in thanking Jennifer and all the Faculty Senators for a job well done and welcoming AY23-24 FS Officers, President **Deneen Long-White** (Public Health), Vice President **Joerg Tuske** (Philosophy), Secretary **David Keifer** (Chemistry), and Webmaster **Jeffrey Emmert** (Physics).

The tally's not quite in for external grant and contract awards for FY23, but this year will be a record-breaker with more than \$11M in external funds received. My thanks to all of you who worked on proposals and funded projects and to the crack team in the Office of Sponsored Projects for facilitating pre- and post-award processes and project success.

The end of the semester is also a different kind of finals season at SU. **Men's Lacrosse** won the NCAA Division III Championship for the 13th time beating Tufts on May 28! This week, **SU Softball** is competing in the NCAA Division III Championship in Marshall, TX. **SU Baseball's** path to the national championship came to an end late last night with a loss in Cedar Rapids, IA.

Finally, because this is my last First Monday email, I'd like to take this opportunity to express my **heartfelt thanks to each of you for your commitment to our students, mission and academic excellence**. It's been the privilege of my career to serve as Provost at Salisbury University and to support and witness the tremendous work that happens here each and every day. I'll continue to work on our Middle States re-accreditation and other projects through the end of 2023. Thank you!

Please join me in welcoming **Laurie Couch** when she takes the helm as SU Provost on July 12th.

Congratulations and Other News to Share

- Last week, SU's **Institute for Public Affairs and Civic Engagement (PACE)** was awarded the 2023 *We the People* Award by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). This award recognizes a strategic team commitment to prioritizing, institutionalizing, and advancing student civic learning and community engagement in regional, state, and national communities. Congratulations to Director **Sandy Pope** (Secondary & Physical Education), former Co-Director **Sarah Surak** (Political Science), **Maarten Pereboom** (Fulton School), and the entire PACE Team, past and present. This is a terrific national endorsement of the Civic & Community Engagement requirement in our GE curriculum and all the great work done at [PACE](#).
- **Christy Weer** has shared her intention to step down from the Perdue deanship after AY23-24 and will return to the faculty in the Department of Management. Dr. Weer has led the Perdue School through a remarkable period of growth and success which included continuing AACSB accreditation (with a separate accreditation for Accounting); launch and growth of the Mid-Atlantic Sales & Marketing Institute ([MASMI](#)) professional sales program and the [National Shore Sales Challenge](#); launch of our online MBA program (ranked as a top program by USN&WR since 2017) and the Business Honors Program (Clarke Honors College); and fundraising and external grants that exceeded \$20M during her tenure. My sincere thanks to Dean Weer for her strong leadership over the past 10 years. She and the Perdue School have much to be proud of.
- And speaking of pride and achievement in the Perdue School, **Bill Burke** will be stepping down as Executive Director of [Entrepreneurship Programs](#) at SU. Bill was instrumental in the design and build of the Rommel Entrepreneurship Center and the continued success of Shore Hatchery and SU's Student Entrepreneurship Competitions. For an idea of impact, the [2022 Shore Hatchery Annual Report](#) indicated 678 jobs created, \$1.787 M awarded to 94 businesses, with 79% of those identifying as women, minority, or veteran-owned businesses. Please join me in thanking Bill for the tremendous impact and legacy he and his team have had on our campus and region.
- Inadvertently missed in our list of retiring faculty last month was **Mary Avara** (Music, Theatre & Dance). Mary has been our 'resident ballerina' for 30 years and has inspired countless dancers through her roles as instructor, choreographer, and artistic director.
- Students in **Mike Lewis'** Environmental Studies Seminar collaborated with Bryan Russo and Matt Heim (Delmarva Public Media) on a radio documentary about the [Wicomico River: The Soul of Salisbury](#). It's a great program – give it a listen!
- If you are looking for some inspiration, check out **Dean Ravizza's** Adapted Physical Education course where his students work with many local children. The power of sports and Adapted PE are so clear on the faces of the kids as they engage in wide varieties of activities crafted to meet their needs and abilities. Great job!
- Congratulations to the 2023 President's Diversity & Inclusion Champion Award recipients: **Jessica Clark** (Academic Affairs, Biological Sciences), **Amy Jones** (SU Libraries), **Beth Towle** (English, University Writing Center), **Kim Quillin** (Biological Sciences), **Nina Soto Ramirez** (College Assistance Migrant Program Director), **Hunter Whitt** (Graduate Student), and **Celestina Agabi, Grace DePanise, Sandra Jean-Baptiste, and Elizabeth Wash** (Undergraduate Students).
- Congratulations as well to **Angeline Prichard** (SU Libraries) and **Eddy Morrison** (Modern Languages) who are the deserving recipients of the 2023 Director's Award for Excellence in Allyship and Collaboration for their outstanding commitment to the Disability Resource Center staff and students. Their unwavering dedication and tireless advocacy have made a significant impact on the lives of individuals with disabilities, exemplifying the true spirit of allyship and collaboration.

- **Matt Bailey** (Physics) was recognized with the Faculty Senate President's Award for Outstanding Service to the Faculty for his tireless work and leadership on the Faculty Welfare Committee. Great job, Matt!
- **Tim Stock** (Philosophy) was appointed to the City of Salisbury Ethics Commission for a five-year term.
- **Tami Ransom** (Environmental Studies) was chosen as April's Career Services Partner for her many years of promoting the Environmental Studies Networking Night.
- Congratulations to the recipients of the 2023-2024 SU Libraries Course Enhancement Grants: **Krispen Laird** (Biological Sciences), **Kim Quillin** (Biological Sciences), **Melissa Bugdal** (English and University Writing Center), **Ashley Petrolino** (Public Health), **Viktoria Basham** (Honors), and **Mary Gunther** (Biological Sciences).
- **Josiah Parker**, an SU Marketing major, has been appointed as the 2023-2024 University System of Maryland Student Regent!
- Each May SU participates in [Thank a Teacher Week](#). This year, 261 faculty and instructional staff received messages of appreciation from our campus community. I want to extend my thanks to ID&D and to all who participated in helping demonstrate the deep gratitude and recognition our faculty and instructional staff deserve for their tireless commitment to our students' education and well-being.
- As noted above, admission of new students looks strong for Fall, 2023. Despite this growth, we **expect to be down 3-4% in overall enrollment** as a result of recent large graduating classes and enrollment losses in previous years. Of course, this has impacts on our budget for the upcoming fiscal year (FY24). Your deans and unit leaders have worked hard to meet our initial budget target. We are hopeful that additional funds will be available after the Fall 2023 census and assessment of the status of other revenues. We expect growth in our overall enrollment after AY23-24.
- And finally, SU recently implemented a Back to Flying Scholarship (\$1,000) for students who were on academic probation in one semester and worked their way back – to the Dean's List! – the next. We were delighted to see that 17 students won this scholarship after the Spring Semester (average GPA increased from 1.28 to 3.73).

Upcoming Events, Opportunities, and Due Dates

- Deadline Today! The Faculty Development Committee is accepting applications for its Faculty Travel Grant program. Applications for travel to be conducted between June 1 and December 31, 2023 are being accepted. See the [Faculty Travel Grant website](#) for application information.
- Please remember to **verify your summer rosters** (regular session deadline 6/8, 5W-1 session deadline 6/7, and 5W-2 session deadline 6/17). Roster verification allows us to check-in with any students who are not attending and determine their status.
- Please consider serving as a co-facilitator in our New Student Reflection event on 8/25 as we welcome the Class of 2027. The call for co-facilitators went out from PACE on 5/18 and a launch event is planned for August 21st.
- Salisbury University students, faculty and staff are invited to submit proposals for seed money from the [Strategic Innovation Fund](#). Due date is Sept. 1st.
- The Salisbury University Foundation (SUF) is accepting **Professional Development Grant** proposals to fund activities between August 17, 2023 to Feb. 15, 2024. The deadline is 4:00 pm

on July 13th. More information can be found [here](#).

- The annual request for your participation in the **USM Faculty Activity Survey** was sent to faculty last month. By completing this survey, you allow us to report the great work of SU faculty to the USM and other constituencies. Reported data are aggregated and reported to the USM and the Maryland Legislature as part of the annual Faculty Workload report. We ask that you submit your information by August 1st (detailed instructions are in the May 23rd email from the Provost's Office and an instructional guide can be found [here](#)).
- You should have received an email from HR on May 22nd regarding salary adjustments for FY24 which include a **2% COLA and 2.5% Merit** increases for eligible employees.
- Thinking about ways to support your students next academic year? Consider taking/retaking the online [Kognito program through the Counseling Center](#).

Upcoming Dates of Interest are listed below (bold indicates events added this month). For more detailed information regarding instruction-related dates of interest, please consult the [Registrar's Calendars](#). For information about Faculty Senate meetings, please consult their [webpage](#). The [CAFE website](#) includes many opportunities for professional development. If you want to share information about events/activities of interest to faculty across campus, please send them to provost@salisbury.edu at least three days before the first Monday of each month.

My best to each of you for a restorative and productive summer and, again, my thanks for your dedicated and outstanding work. It's been a privilege and pleasure to work with you!

Karen

AY23/24	Working Groups work on Middle States Self-Study
6/19/23	Juneteenth Holiday – Campus Closed
6/24/23	Salisbury Pride Parade 2:00 pm (Downtown Salisbury)
7/12/23	Dr. Laurie Couch joins SU as new Provost
7/13/23	Applications for SUF Professional Development Grant proposals due
8/21/23	Chairs and School Directors Institute (8:30 am – 1 pm)
8/22/23	New Faculty Orientation (full day)
8/23/23	Faculty Development Day (am) Provost's Welcome (1:00 -2:30 pm) to be followed by School and CHHS welcomes
8/24/23	Adjunct Faculty Orientation (6:00-8:00 pm)
8/25/23	New Student Convocation (morning) Academic Open Houses (TBD)
8/28/23	First Day of Classes – Fall 2023 Semester
8/31/23	Spring '23 Sabbatical approval/non-approval notification from President
9/1/23	GE course submissions due for FYS, Experiential Learning, Diversity & Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Environmental Sustainability
9/15-9/16/23	Chesapeake Studies Conference
9/22-9/24/23	Maryland Folk Festival
9/23/23	Admissions Open House
10/14/23	Sea Gull Century
10/21/23	Admissions Open House

10/27-10/29/23	Homecoming
11/11/23	Admissions Open House
Fall 2024	New Gen Ed begins
FY25	SU Centennial 2020-2025 Strategic Plan ends Middle States visit (likely in the spring) Carnegie Community-Engaged Campus Re-Application

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