

**From:** [Karen Olmstead](#)  
**To:** [Karen Olmstead](#)  
**Subject:** First Monday Update from the Provost for November, 2020  
**Date:** Monday, November 2, 2020 8:46:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear Colleagues: Well, here we are, rolling into November. I want to thank all of you again for your good work and fortitude this semester and especially this month as concerns about public health and the election are mounting. Although there are dark clouds on the horizon, the commitment to students and fortitude you have demonstrated thus far give me great confidence that together we will be able to face these challenges.

Top of mind is the **General Election**. Sandy Pope (PACE Director and Associate Professor of Secondary & Physical Education) and colleagues in the Institute of Public Affairs & Civic Engagement (PACE), the Department of Political Science, and the Division of Student Affairs have planned a series of events to support understanding and discussion of the election outcomes and processes. Events are listed below and registration/Zoom information is available at the [PACE website](#).

Weds., Nov. 4, 4:00-5:00 pm Election Reflection

Thurs., Nov. 5, Processing and Reflection on the Presidential Election 10 am and noon

Mon., Nov. 9, Reflections on the Election, 6:30 pm

Weds., Nov. 11, So what did you think of the election? A National Times Talk with students.  
1:00 pm

This month, I anticipate that the Faculty Senate will be reviewing the model for **General Education** proposed by the General Education Steering Committee. Please keep an eye out for information forthcoming regarding the proposal model. Updated [Student Learning Goals and Outcomes](#) have already been approved and are available in the SU Catalog.

Thanks to all of you who submitted mid-term grades in October, the numbers of faculty reporting and grades submitted were doubled from last Fall. This semester more than ever, it's important for students to know where they stand in their courses; we appreciate your focus on student success (or lack thereof). If you have a student who seems to have checked out of your course, please feel free to contact Melissa Boog (Associate VP Academic Affairs) or the Advising Services Coordinator in your school or college. All students receiving a D or F as a mid-term grade are contacted by staff in the Center for Student Achievement or Academic Advising Center and provided resources and tips for success. Please see the Dates of Interest at the end of this email for last day to drop a class, open registration, etc.

**Good news to share:**

- SU Nursing students' first-time pass rate on the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) was over 95% for 2019-20. SU retains the highest 10-year average NCLEX pass rate of all USM institutions. This achievement reflects not only on the outstanding education our students receive in the School of Nursing, but also in their generation education and pre-requisite courses. Congratulations to all on this sustained benchmark of excellence!
- Congratulations to Vinita Agarwal (Communication) whose book *Medical Humanism, Chronic Illness, and the Body in Pain* was published last month. As noted by one reviewer, this book embraces 'a multi-disciplinary approach that speaks to patients, practitioners, and a general

- public... and provides a valuable contribution to perspectives in the medical humanities.’
- Congratulations to Ellen Schaefer-Salins and colleagues in the School of Social Work on approval of a [Deaf Studies Minor](#) which will be offered starting next spring. The Deaf Studies Minor includes courses in American Sign Language as well as Deaf Culture and History and Multidisciplinary Practice with People who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
  - On October 30<sup>th</sup>, SU’s Shore Hatchery was held and awarded nearly \$100,000 in prize money to six winners, including SU alumni and a current student. Congratulations to Bill Burke and team at the Entrepreneurship Center and to the Ratcliffe Foundation for their continuing support. Shore Hatchery has awarded nearly \$1.5M to 76 entrepreneurs in its 15-year run.
  - October 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, SU’s Bosserman Center hosted the ninth United Nations Americas Regional Centres of Expertise (RCE) Meeting. The theme of the virtual meeting was “The Future is Now – Sustainable Development” and the conference aimed to reinforce the role of education in achieving a sustainable future. Congratulations and thanks to Brian Polkinghorn (Bosserman Center for Conflict Resolution Executive Director and Professor, Department of Conflict Analysis & Dispute Resolution (CADR)), Brittany Foutz, Lecturer (CADR), and others who helped organize this event. More information about the conference is available [here](#).
  - The pandemic challenged us reconsider how we would achieve global education given international travel restrictions. This fall, faculty from SU and higher education institutions abroad are offering classes in a [virtual globally enhanced courses](#). Our thanks to the team at the Janet Dudley-Eschbach Center for International Education and the following faculty for launching these collaborations:
    - Lori DeWitt and Melanie Trenary (Communication): *Introduction to Communication Studies* with Hong Kong Baptist University, Hong Kong.
    - Sally Perret (Modern Languages & Intercultural Studies): *World Language Methods* with Institución Universitaria, Barranquilla, Colombia.
    - Brian Stiegler (Assistant Provost for International Education/Modern Languages & Intercultural Studies): *Colombo-American Corner* with Institución Universitaria, Barranquilla, Colombia.
    - Sarah Surak (Political Science/Environmental Studies): *Politics & Public Policy* with the Universidad Latinoamericana de Ciencias y Tecnología, San Jose, Costa Rica
    - Joerg Tuske (Philosophy): *Mind, Language, and the World: Themes in Analytical Philosophy* with Chonnam National University, Gwangju, South Korea.
  - Three members of our SU community are 2020 recipients of the Friends of Wicomico Public Libraries Light of Literacy Awards. Harrison Leon, class of 2020, received the Student Luminary Award; Dr. Kristen Sullivan, Executive Director of SU’s Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art, represented the Museum in accepting the Organization Luminary award; and Marie Cavallaro, SU professor emerita of art, was honored with the 2020 Liz Bellavance Legacy Award. The Light of Literacy awards honor a those with a demonstrated commitment to reading, writing and education. You can read more about SU’s recipients [here](#).

### **Training, Resources, and Reminders**

- School/college curriculum committee training for Curriculog (our new online curriculum management platform) is underway. Click [here](#) for a comprehensive User’s Manual and please feel free to contact Melissa Boog (Associate VP for Academic Affairs) or Jennifer Ellis (Academic Program Specialist in Academic Affairs) for more information about how to use Curriulog.
- Our membership in the [National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity](#) provides access to a wide array of resources, including monthly writing challenges, preparing tenure and promotion materials, self-care in a time of uncertainty, discussion boards, and more. Don’t forget to tap into this rich resource.

**COVID-19 Information** on the [COVID-19 website](#) is constantly being updated. We are currently planning to return to campus post-Thanksgiving with the expectation that all campus community members get tested during the week of 11/30/20 (unless you had a positive test in the month of November). You can [select an appointment time](#) that suits your schedule and self-swabbing remains an option. Campus community members who are considered at high-risk or who live with those

who are should feel free to contact Campus Health at [campushealth@salisbury.edu](mailto:campushealth@salisbury.edu) or 410-677-0006 for assistance with parking or scheduling a testing time reserved for high-risk individuals.

As noted previously, to facilitate communication about COVID-19 and any other issues you'd like to discuss, we are planning Faculty Town Halls every other Thursday at 4:00 p.m. The focus of these events is on faculty and our teaching, scholarship and service missions, but staff in Academic Affairs are more than welcome to attend. We'll use the same format with deans or others reading questions from the chat or calling on faculty to ask questions/make comments. If you would like to submit a question or comment (anonymously or not), you can do so through the Questions/Feedback box on the [Academic Affairs webpage](#). Please submit your questions by noon on the day of the Faculty Town Hall which are scheduled for **11/5, 11/19, and 12/3** at 4:00 pm via Zoom: <https://salisbury.zoom.us/j/97901159546?pwd=QlM2aWowUjZuT3NlTXpzL3ZtV3Ezdz09>

Meeting ID: 979 0115 9546

Passcode: 245794

One tap mobile +13017158592, ,97901159546#

If you want to share information about events/activities of interest to faculty across campus, please send them to [provost@salisbury.edu](mailto:provost@salisbury.edu) at least three days before the first Monday of each month.

My monthly office hours are schedule for the fourth Friday of every month at 11AM:

Topic: Provost Open Office Hour

Meeting ID: 621 049 135

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://salisbury.zoom.us/j/621049135>

Again, I want to thank all of you for your thoughtful work and stamina.

Hang in there!

Karen

**Upcoming dates of interest (new events and deadlines in bold)** – See the [Registrar's Calendar](#) for important dates

11/5 Faculty Town Hall (see above for Zoom info)

**11/5 Pre-registration for Winter Session re-opens**

11/6 Last Day to drop a class in regular session (Grade of W)

**11/6 Pre-registration for Spring Semester ends**

**11/15 Applications for May and August 2021 Graduation due**

**11/16 Open registration for Spring Semester starts (Undergraduate Students/Grad Students already open)**

11/19 Faculty Town Hall (see above for Zoom info)

**12/2 Open registration for Spring Semester closes for all students**

**12/3 Faculty Town Hall (see above for Zoom info)**

12/4 Last Day to change grade of I awarded in Spring 2020 semester

**12/7 Registration Re-Opens for Winter Session and for Graduate Students for Spring Semester**

**12/14 7-week Second Session grades due by noon**

**12/17 Faculty Town Hall (see above for Zoom info)**

**12/19 Virtual Commencement for May, August and December 2020 graduates (10:30 am)**

**12/20 Regular Session grades due by 5:00 pm**

**1/8/21 Registration re-opens Undergraduates for Spring Semester**

Karen L. Olmstead, Ph.D.

Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs

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