

From: [Karen Olmstead](#)
To: [Karen Olmstead](#)
Subject: First Monday Update from the Provost for September, 2020
Date: Monday, September 7, 2020 9:23:43 PM
Attachments: [birdfeeder cord.JPG](#)
[image001.png](#)
[birdfeeder.jpg](#)
[FW Message from Student Affairs Regarding Suspicious Incident on Campus..pdf](#)

Dear Colleagues: As we enter the second week of classes, I want to thank you all again for your patience, planning, and fortitude as we work through Fall semester 2020. I realize that there is a lot of information to share and appreciate your engagement in our Town Halls and attention to other communications.

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.

Faculty Town Halls are scheduled for **9/10, 9/24, 10/8, and 10/22** at 4:00 pm via Zoom:
<https://salisbury.zoom.us/j/97901159546?pwd=QIM2aWowUIZuT3NITXpzL3ZtV3Ezdz09>
Meeting ID: 979 0115 9546
Passcode: 245794
One tap mobile +13017158592, ,97901159546#

Good news to share:

- Please join me in congratulating John Nieves (English) and Ron Siers (Secondary and Physical Education) on being named SU's 2020 Distinguished Faculty Award recipients. As noted by Mou Chakraborty (Chair, AY19-20 Faculty Awards & Recognition Committee) at our Welcome Event on 8/26, both John and Ron excel in all aspects of their roles as faculty at SU and are truly outstanding mentors of their students.
- Complementing our [digital Academic Catalog](#) is a digital curriculum process. A dedicated team led by Melissa Boog (Associate VP for Academic Affairs) has nearly completed this project which is expected to go live at the end of September. Dr. Boog and her team will be in communication regarding how to use this platform. Farewell tiresome paper process!
- A special note of thanks for faculty who are teaching SU undergraduate and graduate students who began their semesters last week from their kitchen tables in Ghana, India, Italy, South Korea, China, and other countries around the world. It is a truly usual time and our students are making remarkable efforts to continue their education from abroad.
- Thanks to Rhyannon Bemis (Psychology) who recently took the helm at SU's Office of Undergraduate Research & Creative Activity. Rhy and her team put a tremendous virtual and interactive Summer Research Poster Session on last week. My thanks for a job well done and to all the faculty mentors of the student researchers.
- And speaking of research, SU's Office of Graduate Studies & Research has announced that applications are open for the University Student Academic Research Awards, Graduate Student Research & Presentation (RAP) Grants, and Faculty Mini-Grants (see below for links and due dates).

Other news:

- As described in the attached email to students, there were concerns over the weekend about a cord hanging on campus. It was an apparatus to hold a birdfeeder as part of a bird conservation project (images attached as well).

Training, Resources, and Reminders

- 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.
- Please remember to complete the training modules/policy acknowledgements as described in the email from Salisbury University IT Training sent on July 15th. Modules include: Acceptable Use Policy, Confidentiality Policy, Phishing Fundamentals, Understanding and Protecting PII, and the U.S. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

COVID-19 Information on the [COVID-19 websites](#) is constantly being updated as is the Faculty Senate MyClasses Canvas Site. Thanks for your patience as we work through comprehensive testing of our campus community this week (>1500 people tested today). For testing next month, we will have time to all allow people to select an appointment time that suits their schedule rather than assigning time. SU IT is working on a way for you to see the status of students (CLEARED/NOT CLEARED) on your rosters. More on this as it develops.

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.

Again, I want to thank all of you for your thoughtful work, expertise, and resilience in this truly difficult time,
Karen

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

- ~~9/25 Research Day 2020~~ postponed to a later date
- 9/25 [Graduate Research & Presentation \(RAP\) Grants](#) applications due
- 9/25 [University Student Academic Research Awards application](#) due
- 9/29 [SU Giving Day](#)
- 10/5 [Faculty Mini-grant applications](#) due
- 12/4 Last Day to change grade of I awarded in Spring 2020 semester
- 12/18-12/20 Commencement Exercises for May and December 2020 graduates

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