

Provost's Announcements to the Faculty Senate

October 26, 2021

- 1. Presidential Search:** As mentioned at the last FS meeting, University System of Maryland Chancellor Jay Perman has launched a search for SU's next President. Information about the search is available [here](#). Dr. Perman will host a campus town hall on 11/11/21 to take input on the qualities the campus seeks in its next president. **FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.**
- 2. Instructional efficiencies and planning for anticipated budget reductions:** Given the expected decline in revenues in the next few years, my team is carefully reviewing our expenses. We are working with the deans, Budget Office, VPAF, and UARA to evaluate opportunities for instructional efficiencies (information on following page regarding metrics we are reviewing at campus- and school/college-levels). I'd be happy to discuss this with the Faculty Financial Oversight Committee. **FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.**
- 3. Launch of the new SU Brand:** As noted in the 10/18 email from the President's Office, 'Make Tomorrow Yours' is the new brand representation for SU after more than a year of work by campus-wide team on this important part of our Strategic Plan. For information about the Brand Core Concept and Brand Promise and a FAQ, see the [Brand Website](#). **FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.**
- 4. Faculty Handbook:** There has been a lot of progress on the Faculty Handbook review and revision process. Updated information on the status of each chapter will be available in the FS Faculty Handbook MyClasses site by 10/26/22. **FS Action Requested: Will be seeking input timing of review of remaining chapters/sections.**
- 5. Office of Diversity & Inclusion Searches:** The Office of Diversity & Inclusion will be launching searches for three open positions to support DEI initiatives across the campus. **FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.**
- 6. COVID Questions & Answers:** With the launch of the new brand on our website and the reduction of COVID-19 cases on campus, the large COVID-banner has been removed from our website (COVID-19 info link still at the top). The campus will be running booster clinics – look for info on this in the near future (Pfizer available now). As of the week of 10/15/21-10/22/21, the campus positivity rate was 0.42%. Although we have not confirmed that points of contact were on campus, we have been monitoring the number of breakthrough cases among Academic Affairs employees (including those at satellite sites). Since 9/7/21 (when this type of monitoring began), twelve total cases out of more than 872 fully vaccinated employees in Academic Affairs have been reported (2 currently). **FS Action Requested: Happy to take any questions or feedback.**

