

Provost's Announcements to the Faculty Senate April 25, 2023

- 1. Inauguration Week (May 1-May 5):** There will be many activities and celebrations throughout the week, including a faculty symposium on May 3 titled *Forward with Excellence*. Faculty, students, and staff are invited to attend these events. President Lepre's installation ceremony is scheduled for 10 am on May 5 in The Square. Faculty are encouraged to attend and join in the faculty procession (please [register here](#)). A full schedule of events is available at the [Inauguration website](#). **FS Action Requested: Please help us get the word out and plan to attend as many events as possible.**
- 2. Enrollment Update:** As of April 19th, date-to-date comparisons of First-Year, Transfer, and Graduate student enrollment (as indicated by deposits) are all up. While this is encouraging, we will not have a reliable estimate of AY23-24 enrollments until May 1 (deposit 'deadline' for undergraduates) or late August (when enrollments will be wrapping-up). Because of the smaller number of upper-division students, our best estimate for the upcoming year is -2% compared to AY22-23 and then a rebound in AY24-25 (expecting positive growth after that). **FS Action Requested: None. Happy to take questions or input.**
- 3. Commencement Overview:** As noted in my Feb. 28, 2023 announcements, updated information is available on the [Commencement website](#) for the three ceremonies to be held at the Wicomico Civic Center. My thanks to all faculty attending, playing in the brass ensemble, and serving as marshals and mace bearers in these ceremonies. **FS Action Requested: None, information item.**
 - 5/24 May 2023 Commencement Ceremony for Graduate Students 6:00 pm
 - 5/25 May 2023 Commencement Ceremony for Undergraduate Students (CHHS, Henson, Seidel) 10:00 a.m.
 - 5/25 May 2023 Commencement Ceremony for Undergraduate Students (Fulton and Perdue) 2:30 p.m.
- 4. FT-NTT Titles and Ranks:** As I mentioned in my Sept. 27, 2022 announcements, I am serving on a USM Work Group regarding titles for non-tenure track faculty whose responsibilities are largely focused on teaching. Currently, only the titles of Lecturer and Senior Lecturer are available for non-clinical teaching-focused faculty. The Work Group has recommended that the USM develop titles for the ranks of Assistant Teaching Professor, Associate Teaching Professor, and Teaching Professor. This discussion arose from a recommendation from the department chairs and Faculty Senate at UMBC who noted that this "...better reflects the roles and duties of our full-time teaching faculty and will have a positive effect on campus culture, giving us the opportunity to model inclusive excellence within faculty ranks. This proposed title change also aligns with the professional titles at many other universities and university systems across the nation, and would help UMBC to recruit and retain the most qualified individuals." In their recommendation (February, 2022), they noted 36 universities or university systems that had adopted this type of career ladder for their non-tenure track faculty. I anticipate that language regarding a three-rank system will be coming to SU's Faculty Senate from the USM (either through CUSF or the Provost) in the upcoming year. **Action Requested: None. Happy to take questions or input.**