
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 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 the Delmarva Peninsula](#). A great project that will be broadcast on WICR 12.1 FM.
- **K570** [Kamran Khan](#) (Textiles) inspired a team of students to create a documentary about the history of the [Kamran Khan Textiles](#) in the [Kamran Khan Textiles](#) building. The documentary is available on YouTube.

- **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), **Viktorija 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**

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