

From: [Karen Olmstead](#)
To: [Karen Olmstead](#)
Subject: Academic Affairs First Monday Update for June, 2021
Date: Monday, June 7, 2021 4:56:05 PM
Attachments: [pride month 2021.pdf](#)

Greetings Colleagues: I hope you all were able to dive into your chosen activities this month, whether research, creative endeavors, teaching, community service, catching-up, or some well-deserved downtime. Despite the challenges of the past 15 months, we ended the semester on a tremendous high note with more than 1000 graduates taking part in our [Grad Walk](#) festivities. Lots of happy tears and heartfelt thanks from graduates and their families for all the support SU faculty and staff provided in the last year plus. My thanks as well to Kim Meyer, Marketing & Communications, and scores of volunteers who planned and staffed the graduation celebration events. The personalized approach to Commencement (and perfect weather!) made for truly joyous celebrations.

On a more somber note, I know many of you are concerned about legislative and other **interference regarding teaching, discussion, and/or research on critical race theory**. While much of the legislative and executive action has been targeted at K-12 education, [two states recently passed laws restricting CRT in public higher education with others considering similar action](#). While I can't imagine this happening in Maryland, targeted action against and misunderstanding of CRT underscore the challenges our nation must continue to address. My thanks to your colleagues on the Faculty Senate Summer Advisory Council for raising concerns about the impact of these trends on faculty morale and the need to vigorously support social justice and protect academic freedom and speech.

Also on a somber note, like at many campuses across the country, **we expect our enrollments for Fall 2021 to be down significantly**. We do not know the full impact of this on our budget, but the situation is challenging. Fall 2021 Open Enrollment Periods are: July 7-14; July 19-Aug. 5; Aug. 9-Aug. 29.

Congrats to Retiring Faculty: Please join me in thanking our colleagues for their many years of outstanding service to Salisbury University. We decided to hold-off on our traditional Retiring Faculty Social until we can gather in person. This event is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 17th at 3:30 pm (location TBD).

College of Health & Human Services

- Michele Bracken, Nursing
- John LaManca, Exercise Science
- Sid Schneider, Health & Human Performance
- Marvin Tossey, Social Work

Fulton School of Liberal Arts

- Dean Peterson, Art
- Craig Clarke, Psychology
- Linda Cockey, Music
- Michael O'Loughlin, Political Science

Perdue School of Business

- Jeff Kottemann, Information & Decision Sciences

Henson School of Science & Technology

- Steve Gehrich, Biological Sciences
- Betty Lou Smith, Biological Sciences

- Wanda Perkins, Biological Sciences

SU Libraries

- Cynthia Nyirenda, SU Libraries
- Audrey Schadt, SU Libraries

Thanks to our colleagues for their leadership contributions: Please join me in heartfelt appreciation to the following colleagues who are stepping off the leadership roles at the end of this academic year (in July, I'll recognize incoming leaders):

Faculty Senate: Randy Cone, President, Department of Mathematics & Computer Science (President through August)

College of Health & Human Services

- Mary Hylton, Chair, Graduate Program, School of Social Work
- Victoria Venable, Chair, Undergraduate Programs, School of Social Work

Fulton School of Liberal Arts

- Ed Brown, Chair, Department of Art
- Adam Hoffman, Chair, Department of Political Science
- Diane Illig, Chair, Department of Sociology

Seidel School of Education: Cathrene Connery, Chair, Department of Early Childhood and Elementary Education

Provost's Office: Rich Wilkens, Associate Provost

Good News and Congratulations

- Andrew Martino, Dean of SU's Clarke Honors College has been selected for the 2021 **Fulbright International Education Administrator program** and will travel to Paris this fall. Congratulations, Andrew, on this prestigious award!
- Congratulations to **Dr. Wallace Southerland** who will be taking the helm of Student Affairs at Michigan Technological University on Michigan's beautiful Upper Peninsula. Our thanks to Dr. Southerland for his great collaboration with Academic Affairs and best wishes for his continued success.
- The School of Nursing has received another major grant from the Maryland Higher Education Commission to support nursing education at SU. Congratulations to Debbie Webster, Lisa Seldomridge and other Nursing faculty on this nearly \$1M award.
- The Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ODI) is proud to announce that they have engaged renowned scholar and public intellectual **Michael Eric Dyson** to speak on June 15th (6:30 pm via Zoom) as part of activities commemorating Juneteenth. ODI has also planned a Juneteenth Roundtable Discussion on June 10. Please see the email from ODI sent today for event information and registration.
- **June is Pride Month!** Each June, we celebrate Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in NY and to recognize the important impact that LGBTQ+ individuals have on our history and culture. ODI will host a free Safe Spaces workshop on Wednesday, June 9th from 1-3 pm via Zoom to increase support and understanding; [register](#) to attend. The City of Salisbury and Salisbury PFLAG share this series of events in the attached press release. The materials for the Ribbons of Pride Art Installation on June 5th and for the Rainbow Crosswalk Repainting on June 26th were provided by a grant from the Fulton Public Humanities Program. Special thanks to Michele Schlehofer, Psychology, who founded the Salisbury PFLAG Chapter and continues serving on the Board of Directors. (Thanks as well to the Fulton Dean's Office for their informative Fulton Friday's email!).
- Congratulations to the winners of **SU Libraries 2021-2022 Course Enhancement Awards:** Jennifer Kruglinski (Art); Jennifer Nyland (Biological Sciences); Shruti Patel

(History); Tami Ransom (Environmental Studies); Sarah Surak (Environmental Studies and Political Science); Belen Vicens Saiz (History); and Sarah Wesolowski (Mathematics). And thanks to our colleagues at SU Libraries for this great partnership and support.

Development, Training and Reporting Requests

- Twelve [2021-2022 Faculty Learning Communities](#) have been established and include: Center for Cognitive and Brain Sciences; Enhancing Courses with Emerging 3-D Technology; Ethics Across the Curriculum; Health Humanities; Humanities Writing Group; Information Literacy; Interdisciplinary Teaching & Research; Scholarship of Teaching and Learning; Student Learning Outcomes; Teaching with International Students; Technologies of Identities; and Zoo House Rock. To join an FLC, please contact the facilitator(s) of the desired community.
- The **Annual Faculty Activity Report** (formerly known as the Faculty Extra Instructional Survey) is open and is an important mechanism to communicate the work (and workload!) of our faculty. You can provide the information needed for this report in Digital Measures (see 5/21/21 email from the Office of the Provost). If you haven't done so already, we ask that you complete your entries by 7/16/21. Thanks so much for assistance with this important report which allows us to characterize the collective activity and impact of Salisbury University faculty.
- We've decided to take a break in June and July from our monthly **Academic Affairs Virtual Town Halls**, but we'll be back the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 pm starting on August 12th.

COVID 19-related updates

- *Back to Campus* documents for employees and students are currently being revised and are anticipated to be available in the next several weeks.
- Our next on-campus vaccination clinic is planned for June 23. [Register here](#) if you have not yet been vaccinated.
- See the 6/1/21 email from Stay Informed regarding testing requirements for vaccinated members of our campus community (one-and-done through end of 2021 for fully vaccinated individuals).

Below is an updated calendar. 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.

Best regards, sincere thanks, and best wishes for a restorative summer,

Karen

Upcoming Dates of Interest (bold indicates events added this month)

6/15 Juneteenth Commemoration Virtual Event - Dr. Michael Eric Dyson 6:30 pm

6/17 Communication sent to undergraduate and graduate students (new and returning)

re: Fall Semester

6/18 Juneteenth holiday observed

6/23 Vaccine clinic on campus

6/30 Telework contracts end unless renewed and approved

7/6 Return to campus begins for staff and 12-month faculty unless otherwise approved by supervisor

8/1 DEADLINE for President to approve/not approve Spring 2022 sabbatical applications

8/12 Academic Affairs Virtual Town Hall

8/23 Adjunct Orientation

8/24 New Faculty Orientation

8/25 Faculty Development Day/Provost's Welcome

8/27 New Student Convocation

8/30 Fall 2021 First day of classes – regular session

9/2 Summer Student Research Showcase

9/9 Academic Affairs Virtual Town Hall

9/17 Reception for Retiring Faculty (3:30 pm, location TBD)

9/30-10/1 USM Virtual Faculty Showcase

10/9 Sea Gull Century

10/14 Academic Affairs Virtual Town Hall

11/11 Academic Affairs Virtual Town Hall

12/9 Academic Affairs Virtual Town Hall

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