

**TO:** The Faculty Senate

**FROM:** Donald R. Boomgaarden, Ph.D.  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

**DATE:** May 4, 2015

**SUBJECT:** May 8, 2015

**I. FACULTY SEARCHES:**

As of today, we have filled the following faculty positions:

and developed a GE Assessment Plan for the University. The plan was endorsed by the Faculty Senate and will be implemented this summer. Several groups were convened to examine the assessment needs of High Impact Practices (HIPS) at the University. These *a set of widely tested teaching and learning strategies and programs that when done well have substantial educational benefits, especially for traditionally underserved students. The elements of good teaching and learning embedded in these practices can be applied in many settings, including in traditional classrooms as well as special programs, and in co-curricular settings*

#### **IV. FULBRIGHTS:**

Dr. Susan Trussler has informed me that two students have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships.

Benjamin Turcea, who will graduate with majors in International Studies and Philosophy, has been awarded a Fulbright English Teaching Assistantship to Mongolia. He will spend the year teaching English and American Culture at the Mongolian University of Life Sciences.

Brian Entler, who graduated with a BS in 2013 and will receive his MS in Biochemistry this year, has been awarded a Fulbright in Biology to Macquarie University in Australia. He will conduct research

Yibai Li, Operations and Information Management Department - *The Costs and Benefits of Health Care on Social Media: A Net-Valence Model*

Marc Seid, Biology Department - *Pharmacology Manipulation of Queen Determination in the Bee *Megalopta Genalis**,

Yamile Silva, World Languages and Cultures/Latin American Studies Department -

Jamie Trnka, World Languages and Cultures Department - *Exile and World Literary Circulation*

Loreen Wolfer, Sociology/Criminal Justice Department - *Where Do We Draw the Line? Norms of Facebook Content Disclosure, Wave 2*

## **VI. COLLEGE HIGHLIGHTS:**

### *The Panuska College of Professional Studies*

Prof. Lamanna, Prof. Pesavento and Dr. Conte began a partnership with the Scranton School District and NEIU 19 on Literacy, and introduced the local health care physicians on the Reach Out and Read program. On April 22<sup>nd</sup> Dr. Reid Lyon, a neuro physicist and national expert on reading presented an all-day conference to 140 attendees including government officials, superintendents and Reading Specialists from 17 school districts.

Counseling & Human Services department had a successful CORE accreditation site visit, for our graduate program in Vocational Rehabilitation Counseling.

On April 16, 2015 the Department of Education received approval from PA Department of Education regarding modification to the BS degree. The modifications create conditions for accelerated graduate programs. We will now be able to offer a 4 plus 1 degree for a B.S. in PreK-4 and a M.S. in Special Education.

RN to BSN program in collaboration with Geisinger CMC will be offered by our Nursing Department at Geisinger CMC with the minimum enrollment of 12 RN participants.

### *College of Arts and Sciences*

Congratulations to Ben Degler, Nathan Williams, Timothy Thomas, Luke Alonso who placed third in the finals of the Intel-Cornell Cup competition held in Cape Canaveral. They competed with 22 other finalist teams, from mostly large research 1 schools.

We have just received notice from the Taiwan Ministry of Education that our grant application for a new Mandarin-Chinese teacher to support the K-16 Chinese language program for the following academic year has been awarded.

Four Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology majors recently presented their research at the American Society for Cell Biology (ASC) annual conference in Philadelphia.

**VII. CURRICULUM APPROVALS:**

<b>New Course</b>	<b>Date Posted</b>
NURS 504: Anatomy for Nurse Anesthesia	2/11/15
MATH: 368: Cryptography	3/12/15
EDUC 102: Educational Skills in a Global Society	4/28/15
OT 5XX: Evaluation Intervention for Visual Impairment in Older Adults	2/11/15
EE/PHYS 475: Digital Image Processing	2/24/15
BIOL/NEUR 368: Neuroethology	4/7/15
<b>Course Change</b>	
ERDG 531: Children and Adolescent Literature Worldwide	2/11/15
MATH 204: Introduction to Statistics	2/24/15
COMM 320: Reporting	2/4/15