

Provost Meeting with A&S Senate

December 12, 2022



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Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- Budget hangs over everything
- Insufficient state support
- Lingering impacts of leadership turnover

Opportunities

- Strong faculty and staff
- Moving towards stability in leadership
- Can be strategic across research, students success, and community engagement
- Excellent faculty-led reports to guide efforts
 - Graduate School
 - Continued, Professional, and Executive Education

Senior Leadership Searches

Approach

- Begin with announcement of intention including survey and request for committee members
- Additional agency given the search committee throughout process

Searches

- Four deans appointed in current semester
 - Library (external)
 - School of Medicine (external)
 - School of Dental Medicine (external)
 - School of Nursing (internal)
- Two searches are nearing completion
 - College of Engineering and Applied Sciences
 - College of Business
- Two searches soon to be launched
 - Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Graduate and Professional Education
 - Vice Provost for Continued, Professional, and Executive Education
- Searches in the queue for spring
 - Vice Provost for Global Affairs
 - Vice Provost as part of portfolio refresh

School and College (S/C) Operations

- My goal is for great autonomy for deans in oversight of S/C
- Goal is challenged by the current budgetary picture
- Considering all approaches to bring S/Cs out of debt

- In the meantime, looking for ways to empower deans while also increasing accountability
 - Meet weekly with East and West deans together
 - Developing metrics for annual review
 - Five-year reviews for senior leaders
 - Enhanced shared governance and communication university-wide

Strategic Areas of Focus

Enrollment Planning

- Regular strategy meeting and communication with deans in place
- Develop key aspects of planning
 - Increase in domestic and international out of state students
 - Evaluate how we are using scholarship funds
- Identify barriers
 - Heavy interest in a smaller number of areas
 - Insufficient housing to grow enrollment
 - Insufficient instructional resources and spaces for high demand classes

Economic Development

- Industry partnerships
- Innovation ecosystem across the University (commercialization, tech transfer, utilization of R&D park)

Budgetary Approach

- Review of our current budget model
- Incentives for entrepreneurial activities
- Strategy for University-level Centers/Institutes

Notable Central Initiatives

- Project REACH / Strategic Planning
- IDEA Fellows
- PIE Funds
 - Underway: 1) Quantum, 2) Healthy Aging, 3) AI, 4) Clean Energy
 - Others that may include: Addiction, Cancer, and Drug Discovery
 - Meant to complement full range of research seed support
- Simon's STEM Scholars

Faculty Affairs and Development

- Enhanced process, procedure, and policy
 - Promotion and Tenure Process Review
 - Allocation of Responsibilities for Faculty
- Faculty Support
 - Leadership Development
 - Internal and External Awards and Recognition
 - Review of support for contingent faculty (lectures, adjuncts, etc)
 - Attention to how we treat each other
 - Removal of 10% of friction in daily faculty lives
- Enhanced engagement in decisions; subsequent communication

Students

Undergraduate

- Several strategic re-organizations
- Focus on student support
 - Efforts to limit factors impacting retention (course un-availability, overtaxed advising)
 - Expand availability of experiential learning
 - Leverage strong career services
 - Keep mindful of lingering impacts of COVID-19
 - Enhanced communication with USG

Graduate and Professional

- Restoration of staffing
- Expansion of diversity recruiting
- Programming for a wide range of careers
- Future review of allocation of GTA/GRA lines
- Examination of GTA stipend level

Minimum Stipend across AAU Publics



