

## President Maloney's Campus Conversations

March 12, 2018, 8:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Fuller Aud, Administration Building

President welcomed the group

- President gave an update on the weather situation, and said we would make an announcement today about tomorrow, Tuesday the 13th
- The Jane Elliot program that was scheduled for tomorrow, Tuesday the 13th, is being rescheduled. We will announce a new date soon
- There was a Board of Trustees meeting, scheduled for Tuesday the 13th, will be rescheduled to 3/20
- On March 14th the Worcester Public Schools will be observing a day of peace and will be doing a teach-in to honor the people killed in Parkland, Florida
  - There is a national day of mourning and there will be a march in DC on Saturday, March 24th
- The President recently attended a Board of Higher Education Meeting where they talked about program review and strategic planning review
  - WSU's Strategic Plan is slated for update in about 2021
  - President will share the powerpoint that was presented on Financial Aid
    - The Governor has promised seven million dollars of aid for students from casino revenues
      - The first year will be given to Community Colleges. State Universities and UMass will be added the following year
    - Current Massachusetts financial aid program is one of the most cumbersome in the country
      - This process is being studied by a professor at Harvard
      - There are some 31 different aid offerings
      - These offerings are pretty narrowly targeted and are confusing
      - They are looking at restructuring this program and are looking for models used in states that do it better
  - WSU and Salem State University have submitted a letter of intent to offer a clinical doctorate in Occupational Therapy
    - There are changing requirements from ACOTE (Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education) that anyone who wants to practice in the field needs to have a clinical doctorate by 2027
    - WSU and Salem State are the only two public universities in the state currently offering a Master's Degree in OT
      - These changes could make our master's program irrelevant
    - UMass has weighed in saying they do not approve of our intent
      - They have stated they are trying to put together a similar program as part of their online offerings
    - A Representative has created a bill that helps our creation of the OTD
  - Cabinet met a couple of weeks ago to discuss the reports from the Campus Climate Committee
    - President hopes to submit a response by the end of the academic year on everything that he has received

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- President and Provost will be submitting an update to the campus about online learning
  - They recently met with some faculty to discuss options
- President encourages everyone to engage on the technology in the classroom survey that is currently being conducted
- A question was asked about if there has been any conversations about updating the Formula Funding Processes which distributes some money to the State Universities
  - The formula, incentive and the desire is all still in place, but the funding has shrunk
  - The Governor has proposed a 1% increase in higher education
  - The State Universities formula is only applied to new dollars
- A question was asked about what the President suggests we can do to make our students more visible at the State House
  - The State Universities have been about access and providing a quality education to our regions
    - High quality faculty, campus resources and the community in which we reside helps to set WSU apart from the other eight State Universities
  - Congratulations Day for new students is April 7th
- April 17th at 1:15pm in the Fuller Aud is the next Campus Conversation