

President Maloney's Campus Conversations

October 16, 2018, 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Fuller Aud, Administration Building

- President welcomed the group
- First Campus Conversation of the semester
- President mentioned several campus studies that are on-going
 - One on Information Technologies that is looking at classroom technology
 - May Street Architecture Study, plan is going out to bid in November will be partnering with MSCBA to find an architect. President and Provost have been discussing options of different programs and needs that could be benefited by the building
 - The Positioning Study, will assist the University to identify who is considering this institution, who our competitors are, why and why not students are choosing WSU, among other items. We will be getting assistance from Art and Science Group out of Baltimore, MD.
 - Faculty and staff participated in meetings developing the survey questionnaire last semester
 - There is a working group for this academic year
 - The study will help us identify what directions the University should go in
 - The study will help shape our next our Strategic Plan
 - The study was paid for by deferring a Lake Ellie road project on-campus
 - There are new state dollars that will help fund this and other deferred maintenance projects
- We received feedback from Opening Day
 - We understand that some folks felt that was not the most uplifting topic, however it is the current demographic reality for higher education in New England
- President talked about the APA contract being resolved
 - The President explained the process for the contract
 - President believes that the retroactive raises will go out in November / December
- President talked a bit about the MSCA contract and that he is cautiously optimistic about that contract being brought to the Governor
- President encouraged folks to attend the Esmeralda Santiago lecture on October 18th
- President encouraged folks to attend Sustainability Fair events on October 18th and 19th
- Question was asked about when we'll get the first report out from the Art and Science Positioning Study
 - A campus work group that will see the data that comes out of this study on Friday, October 26th
 - In this form it will be mostly raw data from surveys conducted over the summer and early fall
 - The consultant will assist with some of the early roll out and explaining their data and methodology; they will not be part of implementation
- Question was asked about if the equivalencies had been resolved in the MSCA contract
 - President is not aware of a resolution on that matter
 - President explained the process of the contract clearance

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- President reiterated that the DHE is responsible for negotiating this contract along with MSCA, not the Presidents' -- although they do have a voice.
- President mentioned that the AFSCME contract is up for a ratification vote
- A question was asked about the tools being used, other than the Positioning survey, to help position the University?
 - Before the Positioning study started the University has spent more than two years working internally and, with the help of an external group, to look at some portions of our data and working towards how we use that data. We also use state data regarding demographic changes. All of these points of data will need to be examined before we make any changes. We have people in place, Institutional Research, Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management and the Enrollment Management Committee that are having conversations about what more we can do to provide more tools so that our students and the University can succeed. We also use surveys in Student Affairs, like the National Student Health Survey
 - If anyone has any thoughts on how to improve retention please do not hesitate to reach out to the President
- President mentioned that we are continuing to work with Salem State to offer a clinical doctorate in Occupational Therapy
- The Provost mentioned that we have two Master Degree proposals in front of the DHE
 - A Masters of Public Administration and Policy and a Masters of Public Management
- Provost mentioned that we are working on an interdisciplinary minor on substance abuse counseling
- President mentioned that we have many open student seats on Governance. If you know students that may be interested, please encourage them to consider Governance Committees. They can reach out to the SGA President, Maribel Mateo
- Dean Kyle mentioned that January Intersession Registration opened today, about 50 courses are being offered