

## Campus Conversations with President Maloney

March 19, 2019 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Administration Building, Fuller Auditorium

- President welcomed the group
- March 19th and 20th is WSU March Madness, please help us in supporting our students
  - Three brackets in categories of Academics, Athletics, and Student Organizations and Activities
- President Maloney will be sending out a link to faculty and staff about the [New England Public Policy Center Report about consequences of State Disinvestment in Public Higher Education](#).
- President Maloney followed up to a question that was asked at the last Campus Conversations about sharing the Powerpoint that was given by our consultants. The President, after careful consideration and effort, has decided not to send out the Power Point because we would need to limit the amount of information it displays for proprietary reasons.
  - In recognition of the decision on the powerpoint, the consultants will be back on campus on June 4th and will give the same presentation they did in February
  - President restated that the study will help us chart a course for the University throughout the next several years
- The State, at the last DHE Meeting, is launching an equity agenda (formally called the Vision Project)
  - Under Commissioner Santiago the strategic goals for the system will be part of the Equity Agenda.
  - The President will send out materials regarding the Equity Agenda when he gets them.
  - If resources become available the University needs to act quickly to go after them
  - The Commissioner is currently working on creating an advisory board to work on this project
- We are very close to announcing who the architect will be that will be working on the May Street Building
  - We will be working with all constituents on campus to help us reimagine how that space can be best utilized
- Our 2019 Undergraduate Commencement speaker will be Renee Diaz, née King class of 2012 the owner of Queens Cups, Worcester, MA
  - Commencement will be held on May 18, 2019 at the DCU Center in Worcester
- VPA is doing a series of musical performances around campus. President Maloney encourages everyone to check out these excellent additions to campus life
- A senior student asked a question regarding WSU's investment in fossil fuels and tobacco and what has been done over the past few years
  - President explained the University, restricted by law, only invests in US Agency and Treasury Bonds
  - The WSU Foundation, which works to help secure scholarship dollars, among other tasks, manages the monies of the Foundation, some of them in equity-including stocks. We work with an outside company to help manage those

## Campus Conversations with President Maloney

March 19, 2019 2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Administration Building, Fuller Auditorium

investments. The President and the Foundation Board has looked at this issue in the past and while no decision to divest have been made, WSUF has committed to not expanding the part of our portfolio into new funds that may be invested in fossil fuels.

- The President would be happy to have a further conversation about this topic.
- The President reminded the audience that WSU signed on to the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment in 2007
  - We have made significant improvements in being more environmental friendly [To learn more about WSU's sustainability efforts please check out their page.](#)
- A sophomore student raised an issue regarding sharing of a residence parking decal and some students getting ticketed
  - The President will set up an appointment for the student to chat with the Dean of Student Activities and the Chief of Police
- A question was asked about if the State University President's were doing anything to advocate on the Cherish Act
  - Over spring break 14 students advocated congress regarding issues they developed
  - On Thursday, March 21st a group of students will be going to the State House to advocate on the behalf of public higher education in Massachusetts
    - The Cherish Act is part of this conversation
  - The Council of Presidents are looking into the Mass Grant Plus Program that is supposed to be funded through Casino dollars
  - Point of information from MSCA Chapter President Don Bullens, the Mass Teachers Association is advocating for the Cherish Act
- The President reminded everyone that we are headed into the busiest time of the year and thanked everyone for their hard work and reminder to support our students anyway we can
- The President mentioned that Acceptance Students Day on Saturday, April 6th, is an all hands on deck event
  - Please support the Admissions Office and Enrollment Management in their efforts
- On Saturday, April 6th, we will be celebrating the 50th year of the Learning Resource Center
- The next Campus Conversations in April 24th
- The May 14th Campus Conversations has been cancelled