Dear Colleagues,

Welcome back to the start of the spring 2016 semester. I hope your holiday break was restful, joyful and full of opportunities to revitalize. This is always an exciting time for all of us, and I wish everyone a great semester and a prosperous new year. A lot has happened over the past month, and I’d like to give you a quick and brief update.

- Dr. Walter Wendler retired at the end of last year, and Dr. Craig Anz is the Interim Director of the School of Architecture;
- Mr. Kevin Lister retired at the end of last year, and a new Director of Development will be joining us at the end of this month;
- Dr. Becky S. Robinson started her job last week as the college’s Recruitment and Communication Specialist.
- Chad Schwartz and Karen Johnson are co-chairing the CASA Research Committee. Two sub-committees will be established: (1) The Research Sub-committee will be in charge of summer research, Research Paper of the Year, JASA coordination, and website management; and (2) The Symposium Sub-committee will facilitate the annual multidisciplinary research symposium.
- We are in the process of selecting a leader for the Department of Aviation Management and Flight. I am taking the chair’s responsibilities temporarily before an interim chair is appointed. If you can’t find me in the dean’s office, please try TEC 146D or phone 3-9245 during this time.

The spring semester offers an exciting lineup of activities for every member of our college, and below is a partial list of them.

- The “NEAT” Initiative focuses on four stages during the semester, namely, the first week No-Coverage or No-Show reporting; the fourth week engagement reporting; the mid-term grade reporting; and the end of semester assessment.
- Ernest J. and Mary C. Simon Distinguished Faculty Award nomination, deadline is January 29.
- Scholarship Weekend, February 5-6; College Showcase 3:30pm - 5:00pm, Friday February 5th, TEC Multipurpose Room;
- Externship Program during Spring Break: March 12-20;
- Faculty annual performance evaluation and workload assignment for AY 2016-2017;
- CASA Board of Counselors Meeting, Friday, April 8; and
- Honors Day, Saturday, April 9.

Spring courses start on Tuesday, January 19th, and we’re poised to launch a semester full of accomplishment and celebration. Have a great semester!

**CASA “NEAT” INITIATIVE**

Our academic accomplishments at SIUC are best achieved through collaborative team approaches and communicative action geared toward fostering student success. In order to further productive retention efforts within our programs, as well as lead to better student achievement in the long run, faculty need to report to the unit advisors those students who can be determined ‘at risk’ or potentially at risk of not fulfilling their requirements for their classes. If you know a student is not performing at the level they
should be, discuss it respectfully with the student, encourage them to meet with their advisors, and also share your general concerns with your unit advisor, chair or director, to the best benefit of the student. The fundamental information to be supplied to the advisor is simply the facts: the student(s) in question is either missing too many classes and/or is not fulfilling their potential or obligatory assignment requirements to succeed in the class at that point. This can be determined by simple attendance records and/or work-to-date status grades. Take note of behavioral changes or attributes that might convey their particular needs or issues. The unit advisors can then talk to those students in person and advise them of their options. Only then can informed appropriate action be taken.

The first week of class is always hectic. During this first week of classes, the dean’s office is collecting NC-NS (No Coverage – No Show) reports from each department/school. The NC (No-Coverage) report provides a list of courses in the spring schedule that do not have an instructor to cover the first class. Please make sure there is no course starting the first class without an instructor in classroom. If a faculty member will not be able to go to his/her first class, for any reason, please inform students BEFORE the class time and have a backup or makeup plan. By the end of this week, each department/school will submit an NC report to the dean’s office. Academic advisors should collect student NS (No-Show) reports.

CONGRATULATIONS

- Dr. Sandy Collins, Program Director and Associate Professor of Health Care Management (HCM), Marcea Walter, Assistant Professor of HCM, Richard McKinnies, Associate Professor of Radiologic Sciences, Jennifer Sherry, Associate Professor of Dental Hygiene, and Anthony Fleege, Associate Professor and Program Director of Mortuary Science and Funeral Services have a presentation accepted for this summer’s Annual Conference of the Association for University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA), Kansas City, Missouri, June 22-24, 2016. The title of their presentation is: “Using Student Surveys to Develop an Understanding of Population Health Issues in HPV Education.” Congratulations!

- An accreditation team representing the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) visited our Fire Service Management (FSM) BS and MS programs in the School of Architecture on January 7 – 11, 2016. The preliminary evaluation findings were very positive. Generally, the site team found that both the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science programs are excellent programs that are effectively managed and adequately supported by the University. FSM Director Gary Kistner, Program Advisor Lindsay Laycoax, School of Architecture Interim Director Craig Anz, Associate Dean Tom Shaw, and FSM faculty and students were participating during the accreditation visit. All of FSM faculty, staff and students are to be congratulated on maintaining its quality as defined by their peers in this professional field. I also appreciate the guidance from Dr. Allen, Associate Provost for Academic Programs, Dr. Mandara Savage, Interim Director of Extended Campus, who attended both the introductory and exit briefing meetings of this site visit. Thank you and congratulations!

- Matt Baumgartner, a senior architectural student in the School of Architecture, presented his plan for a model Downtown Square Park in Murphysboro’s downtown. Baumgartner’s design was for a class project for his architectural studies. This is the second year that students of Senior Lecturer Steven Turnipseed, School of Architecture, have studied the city’s downtown area and drafted ideas about how to enhance its downtown. The class will also present designs for Nashville and Pinckneyville. Congratulations!
Kendra Stenger, an SIU Masters student, was selected among 300+ artists from across the United States to participate in the National Wet Paint MFA Biennial in Chicago from January 15 to February 13, 2016. The National Wet Paint MFA Biennial Exhibition 2016 is an outlook and an overview of top MFA painting programs in the United States. Wet Paint refers to the idea that this is a fresh group of artists. They are MFA (Masters of Fine Arts) candidates and recent MFA recipients working primarily in the medium of painting. Now on its fourth edition this growing and highly competitive juried exhibition will bring to Chicago some of the most talented emerging artists in the country. Wet Paint 2016 is fully funded by the Zhou B. Art Center which makes it possible for graduate students to submit works for consideration at no cost. The National Wet Paint MFA Biennial 2016 takes place from January 15 to February 13, 2016 in the spacious second floor gallery of the Zhou B Art Center. Wet Paint is curated by Zhou B Art Center’s curator, Sergio Gomez, MFA. Congratulations!

Please join me in welcoming the newest member of the Health Care Management (HCM) External Advisory Board (EAB), Richard Goins. Mr. Goins is the Director of Professional Services/COO at Massac Memorial Hospital. He will be teaching our HCM 366 – Health Information Management class in the on-campus format this semester. Undoubtedly, he will bring a great deal of knowledge to our program, especially to the Masters of Health Informatics (MHI) degree given his research focus in this specific area. Congratulations!
The Master of Science degree in Health Informatics and the Master of Science degree in Health Administration within the School of Allied Health (SAH) both have established a distance education code enabling the distance education programs and their courses to be aligned with the SIU Board of Trustees tuition and fee approval. This means that these two new Master’s degree programs could start offering their first semester online courses starting this Summer semester. Congratulations!

Gary Kistner, Program Coordinator of Fire Service Management (FSM), has been working with the Chicago Fire Department (CFD) to secure a new classroom for the Fire Service Management / Public Safety Management program in the CFD headquarters in Chicago. In addition, CFD will provide us with office space at no cost for the purpose of providing advising and counseling to current and potential students. Distance education equipment will be installed soon. Congratulations!

AD STAFF MEETING

The Administrative (AD) Staff will meet on Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 9:00am - 11:30am in the Dean’s Conference Room. The tentative agenda of the meeting is below:

1. Welcome, open forum, and Dean’s Update
2. Strategic Recruitment Plan for 2016 Fall Semester
3. TEC Usage Guidelines
4. Round Table Discussion and Other Business

If you have any specific items that you feel the Administrative Staff should consider at the meeting, please send me your suggestions before 1:00pm Tuesday, 1/19/2016. All faculty and staff are invited to the open forum section of the Administrative Staff meeting from 9:00am - 9:30am.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Intelligent Transportation Society of America (ITS America) President and CEO Regina Hopper released the following statement on January 14, 2016 in response to the announcement by U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx that the Obama Administration has proposed $4 billion over 10 years for automated and connected vehicle pilot projects that accelerate vehicle safety technologies. “ITS America applauds Secretary Foxx and the Administration for accelerating the adoption of advanced vehicle technologies, such as vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) and vehicle-to-infrastructure (V2I) communication that will significantly reduce traffic fatalities and injuries and ensure America continues to lead in automotive and transportation innovation. Automated and connected vehicle technologies will save thousands of lives each year and bring us closer to our goal of zero deaths on America’s roads. Congress took a critical step in the FAST Act to encourage innovation and support the deployment of these and other Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS). This announcement represents the collective commitment of the transportation, technology and highway safety communities to tackle the challenges and harness the opportunities before us to transform safety and mobility in America.”

ON THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR
- Monday, January 18, 2015: Martin Luther King Birthday Holiday.
- Tuesday, January 19, 2015: 10:00am-12:00pm, Deans’ Council Meeting, Anthony Hall Balcony Conference Room; Textbook Award Ceremony, 5:00pm, Student Center Ballroom D.
- Wednesday, January 20, 2015: 9:00am - 11:30am, Ad Staff Meeting, Dean’s Conference Room.
- Thursday, January 21, 2015: 1:00pm, COEHS Dean interview, Library.
- Friday, January 22, 2015: 9:00am, COEHS Dean interview, SSB 307.

AND FINALLY …

If you see something in this update that you want to comment on, please send me an email at my SIU email awang@siu.edu or call me at 618-536-6682. Also, if you know of somebody who might be interested in receiving the CASA Dean’s MMU, please ask them to send me an email and we will gladly add them to our mailing list. On the other hand, if you prefer not to receive the CASA Dean’s MMU, please let me know, as well. Thank you.

Andy Ju An Wang, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Applied Sciences and Arts