June 2021: Faculty Senate Update from Dr. Y-T Lee

## **Faculty Senate (FS)-- For Your Information and Update** Overview

- 1. Summary of Fall Vaccine Requirement Survey by FS
- 2. IBHE Approved RME Proposals
- 3. Update from the Chancellor and Provost's Offices

## **1. SUMMARY OF VACCINE REQUIREMENT SURVEY BY FS**

In mid-June, the Chancellor's Office asked us to assess faculty opinion on requiring COVID vaccination for employees and students (with exceptions for religious, personal or medical reasons) by the time the fall 2021 semester starts. Due to the fact that most faculty members are off contract, we had 19 responses from Faculty Senators in addition to responses from individual faculty members at School of Health Sciences, School of Medicine and College of Business and Analytics and NTT faculty members. Our findings showed that 66% to 70% of respondents are in favor of vaccination requirement, with exceptions for religious, personal or medical reasons, by the time the fall 2021 semester starts. If you need more detailed info about this quick assessment, please write to our Constituency Officer Mr. Josh Frick (Joshfrick@siu.edu).

### **2. IBHE APPROVED RME PROPOSALS**

We are informed that the following list of proposals were approved by IBHE: This change will take effect July 1, 2021 and will be published in the 2022-23 catalog. If you have any questions, please contact the Provost's office about academic programs at 453-7653 or <a href="mailto:apap@siu.edu">apap@siu.edu</a>.

RME: School of Theater and Dance; RME: School of Physics and Applied Physics; RME: School of Languages and Linguistics; RME: School of Forestry and Horticulture; RME: School of Communication Studies; RME: School of Anthropology, Political Science, and Sociology; RME: School of Africana and Multicultural Studies; RME to move Information Technology from the School of Analytics, Finance, and Economics within the College of Business and Analytics to the School of Computing within the College of Engineering, Computing, Technology, and Mathematics; RME to move the School of Automotive and the School of Aviation to the College of Health and Human Sciences.

## **3. UPDATE FROM THE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST'S OFFICES**

Paul Frazier, a veteran educator and administrator, will serve as Southern Illinois University Carbondale's vice chancellor for diversity, equity and inclusion. His appointment is effective July 1, pending approval by the SIU Board of Trustees. The VCDEI announcement can be found here: <u>https://news.siu.edu/2021/06/062221-Veteran-educator,-administrator-named-SIUs-new-vice-chancellor-for-diversity,-equity-and-inclusion.php</u>.

The Provost is continuing to work on identifying someone to serve as the faculty ombudsperson and the chancellor's office is identifying someone who can serve as the staff ombudsperson. For more information on the faculty ombudsperson search, please contact Provost Komarraju.

In terms of the vaccination update, the university continues to evaluate the complexities associated with requiring vaccinations for students and employees for the beginning of the fall semester. Campus leaders are also working closely with the system office on this matter. As of right now, no decision has been made but something could be announced at any time.

Here is the update on enrollment. The data below are current as of last Sunday evening 6/20 (we are 8-weeks out from the Fall semester) and are compared with the enrollment data for the same time last year. We are also working hard to get continuing students to register as it is the totality of new and continuing students who are counted in our final tenth day numbers.

#### **UG Freshmen on-campus**

Admits = 6,472 [15% higher] Registered = 1,078 [9.2%]

#### **UG Transfers on-campus:**

Admits = 1,132 [-3.2% lower] Registered = 486 [1.7% higher]

#### UG Transfers all-off-campus (web-based + off-site locations):

Admits = 283 [22% higher] Registered = 108 [9.1%]

#### **Graduate students:** Admits = 710 [14.33%] Registered = 267 [44.3%]

# We wish you a happy and safe summer! Thank you for your service and commitment to SIU and our Students