

**From:** [McCormick, Adrienne](#)  
**To:** [Faculty Conference](#)  
**Subject:** Friday Feature: New semester greetings and new budget reduction updates  
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Greetings, colleagues, and Happy New Year!

I hope that you all found ways to restore yourselves over the holiday break. I spent time with family, did some COVID-era campus visits with my daughter (i.e., we drove through in the car and watched virtual tours ), and started a 30-day yoga journey to find moments of stillness amid the whirlwind. I hope you've identified your way to find still points in this time of renewal and return as well. As I write this, I am watching masked students roll their belongings back into Margaret Nance, with help from their masked parents. I trust you and they will continue the vigilance that has brought us this far through the pandemic.

As you know, the Deans and I have been working all year to reduce Academic Affairs expenses to match our lower revenues. We are using the conservative enrollment model for FY23 and FY24 that was developed in collaboration with Enrollment Management and Finance and Budget to inform budget reduction planning. We have identified many steps we can take to reduce the budget for FY23 and FY24 to match the projected revenue declines. We still have a gap to our projected FY23 revenues. As we work to identify potential ways to close that remaining gap, we want faculty input on our process and the tough decisions we must make to keep Winthrop in a sustainable financial position. I'm writing to let all of you know that I have invited the members of Academic Council to work together with ALC members during the month of January to learn more about the budget reduction decision-making process and give us their inputs and feedback on the decisions that lie ahead.

Academic leadership will continue to analyze data as they come in for spring 2022 and fall 2022 enrollments and revenues. But we must have a plan in place should the revenues come in as low - or lower - than predicted in the model. We will report out on the results of our work as the semester progresses.

As you begin classes next week, please accept my thanks and tremendous appreciation for the work you do every day, every week, every semester to create transformative learning experiences for Winthrop students. And many thanks to the members of Academic Council for their excited, gracious response to this additional invitation to serve.

Have a great weekend,  
Adrienne

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