

Friday Features (May 8, 2020)

Hello All,

Just a few updates as you wrap up grading:

- 1) **Congratulations to all of those who achieved tenure and/or promotion!** Notification letters were sent via email yesterday. It was a pleasure to share in the excitement of your many achievements.
- 2) Annual reports for CAS and CVPA are due next Friday, as usual. Please talk to your department chairs about the accommodations we have made for how you may use your student course evaluations, as **inclusion of Spring 2020 student course evaluation data is optional.**
- 3) To our colleagues who are retiring, or re-retiring: **Congratulations! You have taken going out with a bang to a new level!** You will always remember your final semester, but perhaps not in the way you had imagined. Please stay in touch and stay tuned as we continue our efforts to imagine what an Emeritus College might look like!
- 4) Fatigue-levels are higher than usual as we approach May 15. Many of you are gearing up for Summer Session, while others are modifying research and other creative activities that normally take place during the summer months. We know “time away” from the normal bustle of the semester holds a special place in academia, and you likely need it more this semester than ever. **But please continue to follow campus communications, even if only on Fridays, as those on 12-month appointments continue to plan what our eventual return will look like.** Adrienne will continue to post Friday Features, to keep you abreast of plans explored, decisions made, and breaking news.
- 5) **Saturday, May 9, spend a little time on social media and the Winthrop website to help celebrate the achievements of our graduates!** We have tentatively scheduled an August 15 in-person commencement to replace the ceremony that would have taken place tomorrow. But we also wanted to create a website dedicated to congratulating those graduates who have completed all degree requirements and are starting the next phase of their adventures.
- 6) **We are still working on our WIG!** ALC is analyzing registration data, considering ways to eliminate continuing barriers to registration for our students, and preparing plans for outreach to students who may be at risk of losing scholarship supports. The faculty and staff have partnered incredibly with Access and Enrollment Management as they work to recruit our next class, but we also need to continue our efforts to **re-recruit returning students** and help them see that they still have a place at Winthrop.
- 7) **President Hynd has charged all divisions to prepare plans for what our return to campus will require.** ALC is working on our plan, aggregating inputs from each college and unit as they consider how to 1) safely provide for social distancing in Winthrop classrooms, labs, studios, offices, and all of the places we gather; 2) modify the Fall 2020 course schedule relative to our mix of online, hybrid, and campus-based classes to provide both high quality instruction and the agility to pivot to alternate modalities as needed; and 3) support students, faculty, and staff who may require continued remote options due to underlying conditions and other factors. We will share more details as we finalize these plans.
- 8) **Continue to take care of yourself and your families!** Don't hesitate to reach out to Adrienne or Adolphus with questions about any of our collaborations.