

December 2014



ACADEMIC & FACULTY NEWS

E-newsletter from the Office of the Provost/Academic Affairs

From my desk to yours: A message from the Provost

Stewardship

Good Morning Colleagues:

“We may not be there yet, but we’re closer than we were yesterday.” This is a fitting quote as we conclude fall semester. We have accomplished much in just a short time and I look forward to the work we have yet to do together. A paramount concern for St. Cloud State University in the coming months is *stewardship*. The term *stewardship* is often thought of in the context of managing monetary gifts, overseeing the spending of money, or responsibly managing budgets. Indeed, resources are of special concern this year, but the stewardship of understanding the mission, vision, and values of SCSU is also of vital importance. We have a shared responsibility to our students and to one another to live the mission and values of the university as we participate in this diverse learning community. We all must “think, do, and make a difference” together.



While we embrace the mission of SCSU and can express it with clarity, we also must be good stewards of resources, especially as we are asked to address the limitations of our current budget. To continue to address the fiscal concerns for the current year, colleges, schools, and support units will be asked to work together to find ways to grow current

academic programs, create new programs, and advise and assist students in the completion of their programs.

Our office will work with our internal and external partners to actively address our current circumstances. We will support efforts to develop new programs that will enhance our academic portfolio. We will generate new strategic articulation agreements with MnSCU institutions as well as with international colleges and universities to better serve students. We are continuing to review all requests for employment appointments to ensure the requested positions are both aligned with our mission and use our resources responsibly. We will work together to determine and institute enrollment guidelines for our course offerings. A special effort will be made to better use our Summer School offerings to help our students reach their degree completion goals. In addition to the aforementioned initiatives, we will explore the possibility of new program offerings at the Twin Cities Graduate Center in Maple Grove.

We are all responsible for helping to identify and recruit new students and to improve retention and graduation rates of our current students. As stewards of our mission and the resources of the University, I encourage you to think about how can make a difference in improving the quality of our university offerings.

Best wishes for a joyous holiday season,
Richard

Kudos! Grants and Awards

- Amy Knopf received a one million dollar grant for the Rehabilitation Counselor Education Program. [Read More](#)
- St. Cloud State earned the inaugural International Education Award from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) [Read More](#)
- Patricia Ellinger received the 2014 American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP) Member Excellence in Education Award. [Read More](#)
- Dr. Mumbi Mwangi was awarded the Carnegie African Diaspora Fellowship to develop a gender program at Nelson Mandela University, our sister institution in South Africa. [Read More](#)
- Faculty Improvement Research Grants. 7 recipients totaling \$36,747.63.
Recipients: P.H. Christian, Art; Michael Dvorak, Chemistry and Bio Chemistry; Monica Garcia-Perez, Economics; Justin Quinn, Art; Marco Restani, Biological Sciences; Younsook Yeo, Social Work; Hung-Chi Yu, Geography and Planning
- Faculty Improvement Short Term Awards. 6 recipients totaling \$9391.65.
Recipients: JoAnn Asquith, Haeinn Lee, Ming Chien Lo, Nimantha Manamperi, Peiyi Zhao, Yongli Zhao

If you would like to nominate a faculty member or student to be featured in the Kudos section, please email acadaffairsweb@stcloudstate.edu.

Academic spotlights

This month, you won't want to miss the Faculty Academic Spotlights where we feature Lecturer [Hedy Tripp's](#) empowerment of Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) women and Professor [Bel Kambach's](#) teaching and research about the cruise industry.

We know your heart and passion are with our students. Read about [Carmen Johnson](#) and her physical education practicum experience at Sartell High School. She has benefitted from the strong education, guidance and encouragement from our faculty.

If you would like to nominate a faculty member or student to be featured in a spotlight, please email acadaffairsweb@stcloudstate.edu.

Updates and announcements

- We would like to welcome Dr. Ashish Vaidya as our next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs effective July 1, 2015. [Read More](#)
- Read through the Enrollment Management Plan draft for 2014-2016. You are welcome to leave comments in the discussion or send them to Bruce Busby. [Read More](#)
- We'd like to hear from you! If you have visited the new Academic Affairs website, please take the time to fill out this [two-minute questionnaire](#). We appreciate your responses thus far and look forward to reading those to come.

Please email academicaffairsweb@stcloudstate.edu if you have any comments, questions, or concerns about this newsletter or the Academic Affairs website.
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