

Subject: Welcome to Summer II

Date: Monday, July 13, 2020 at 11:19:03 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Academic Affairs

To: Rockville Faculty{FT&PT}, Germantown Faculty{FT&PT}, Takoma Park Faculty{FT&PT}, Academic Affairs Staff and Administrators

Colleagues,

Time moves so quickly! Here we are on the first day of Summer II, and I find myself reflecting on where we were 6 weeks ago with the first day of Summer I. You may recall that I'd shared a Monday Update email (June 8th) with all of you, closing with "This will be an exceptional summer. We are using this time to ensure that the disruption experienced this spring due to the pandemic is matched by seamless, coordinated transitions to summer sessions and the fall semester. I am so grateful to those who are teaching, those who are training this summer, and those who are working for our return to campus when that day comes. All of this is being done as we try to process and respond to events happening around us, and to find effective means to take action."

We begin Summer II with our highest enrollment: 9,050 compared with 5,833 last year. We are offering 478 sections compared with 344 last year, and we've achieved an 82.4% seat utilization. The demand has been extraordinary. Returning and visiting students have registered in record numbers. The response of faculty eager to teach Summer II and the work done to ensure that students experience excellence has been tremendous. In addition to the faculty who undertook Blackboard training in the spring, 700 more took advantage of the Structured Remote Teaching professional development opportunity offered through ELITE and supported by faculty mentors, chairs and deans. Additional faculty members will participate in advanced training workshops starting today. I am so thankful to all our faculty for their dedication and commitment to professional development that will result in high quality, well-designed, and engaging courses for our students.

I want to give a special thank you to the members of ELITE and the SRT mentors, chairs, deans and Learning Center staff who are supporting and assisting with the comprehensive training. Our students will continue to benefit from these preparations for years to come.

Thank you for all you do.

Sanjay