**Administrative Brief for Faculty Senate for April 22, 2021 (presented @ Apr. 29 Senate)**

**Prepared by Dr. Darren Dawson and Dr. Christine Curtis**

**4/22/2021**

**Facilities Report**

* **Spragins Hall Exterior Renovations** – Exterior framing began earlier this month. The custom color selected for the metal panels - UAH Blue – caused an increase in the panel fabrication schedule; therefore, completion of the front entry column, beam & soffit cladding has moved-out to May 14, 2021.
* **BAB Cyber Security Lab** – Notice to proceed with construction was issued on February 15, 2021. Substantial completion is scheduled for July 15, 2021 with user move-in scheduled to complete before the start of classes this Fall Semester.
* **Shelby Center Exterior Renovations (Phase 1)** – Construction bids were received on February 9, 2020 and the project has been awarded to Lambert Contracting.
* **Altenkirch Lawn “Greenway” Phase III** - The project is scheduled to receive bids on March 4, 2021. Pending successful bids and approval from the UAS Board of Trustees in April, the start of construction is scheduled for May 2021.
* **2021 Roof Replacements Projects** – Construction documents are complete for Cramer Research Hall, Johnson Research Center, Olin B. King Technology Hall and Optics Building. These projects are currently planned to receive funding from Alabama PSCA capital bonds. The projects are scheduled to bid in March with the anticipated start of Construction set for summer 2021.
* **Roberts Hall Renovations** – UAH Facilities & Operations (F&O) has begun efforts to revisit programming and planning efforts conducted in 2017 to determine current needs for the project. F&O is also working on a Facilities Conditions Assessment to help determine the full project needs and scope of work.
* **Shelbie King Hall Renovations** – UAH Facilities & Operations (F&O) has been directed to begin programming and planning efforts to determine a conceptual project scope of work and respective total project budget. F&O is also working on a Facilities Conditions Assessment to help determine the full project needs and scope of work.
* **Executive Plaza Buildings Demolition** – UAH Facilities & Operations (F&O) is submitting a Stage I & Stage II Package for review and approval by the UAS Board of Trustees in April. Project funding sources and project delivery methods are currently under advisement with the goal to begin demolition of vacated structures in poor condition this year.
* **Campus Lake Dredging and Repairs** – UAH Facilities & Operations (F&O) has engaged a Design Professional to provide a survey of existing conditions in order to verify the total project scope of work and estimate of probable cost. Construction is anticipated to begin the summer of 2021 upon completion of the spring academic semester.
* **Spragins Hall Interior Renovations** – UAH Facilities & Operations (F&O) received approval from the UAS Board of Trustees this month to move forward with planning and design efforts. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the 2021 Fall Semester and continue through the 2022 Spring Semester.

**Miscellaneous Items**

* **Update - Vaccination Plan –** We will continue our in-house vaccination program and our coordination with the ADPH throughout the spring semester and the summer.

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**Academic Affairs**

**Dean of the College of Nursing Search**

The position advertisement is posted. For full consideration, applications should be submitted by May 28, 2021, although applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

**Associate Provost Search**

Preliminary interviews were conducted and the committee is developing tits recommendations.

**Fifth Year Review of College of Business Dean**

The Review Committee conducted surveys and held open forums for faculty, staff, and students. Vice Presidents, Deans, and external peers have provided input. The Committee is meeting during April to compose their report to the Provost.

**Update on Health and Safety**

Spring Semester and Preparation for Fall Semester

* Current requirements for health and safety will remain in place throughout spring semester.
* Health and Safety Task Force will continue to meet regularly to discuss changes in the health and safety requirements for summer terms.
* HealthCheck will continue up until May 10, 2021.
* Passports for student entry into class will continue until May 10, 2021.
* Social distancing will change for summer semester to 3 feet circumferentially.
* Domestic travel can resume on August 1, 2021; however if a conference is held virtually, virtual attendance is favored over person to person attendance. International travel will not be allowed until further notice.

**Spring 2021 Final Exam Options**

For Online courses and/or Remote sections:

Final exams, as with other course activities, will generally be conducted online. Any exception to online delivery must be approved by the college dean and provost prior to the beginning of the semester so that students can be notified upfront of the need to be present on certain dates.

For Traditional and Hybrid courses:

Faculty may elect to give final exams online or in person. If faculty give in-person exams, the university defined final exam schedule will be followed, with exams given on the date/time prescribed in the Spring 2021 Academic Calendar. All students, regardless of blue/silver classification will take the exam in person on the same day/time. Social distancing guidelines must still be followed. This means that the exam must be given a classroom large enough to accommodate all students in a socially distanced manner. Alternatively, the class may be split into two groups, utilizing two or more classrooms in order to ensure social distancing. Departments will assist faculty in finding proctors as needed. As stated above, students in remote sections of traditional and hybrid courses will be provided online exams.

Please keep in mind that changing health and safety guidelines may necessitate the closure of the university. Faculty are encouraged to have a contingency plan for the administration of exams in case we are forced to complete the semester in a remote fashion.

**2021 Tenure and Promotion**

**Award of Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor:**

Kavan Hazeli Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering

John Harfouch Philosophy

Maria Pour Electrical and Computer Engineering

Shannon Mathis Kinesiology

Jeremy Elliott Kinesiology

Sarah Roller Curriculum and Instruction

Sandra Lampley Curriculum and Instruction

**Promotion to Professor**

Emil Jovanov Electrical and Computer Engineering

Derrick Smith Curriculum and Instruction

**Promotion to Senior Lecturer**

Mary Alice Smeal Mathematical Sciences

**Announcement** of 2020-2021 **University Excellence Awards**

* University Distinguished Teaching Award – Dr. Molly Johnson, College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Science
* University Distinguished Research and Creative Achievement and Scholarly Performance Award – Dr. Gary Zank, College of Science
* Graduate Mentor Award – Dr. Lingze Duan, College of Science
* Graduate Advisor Award – Dr. Ann Bianchi, College of Nursing
* Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Mentor Award – Dr. Sharifa Love-Rutledge, College of Science
* College Outstanding Faculty Awards

Dr. Chad Thomas, Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences

Dr. Yongchuan Bao, Business

Dr. Ryan Conners, Education

Dr. Jason Cassibry, Engineering

Dr. Tracie Morgan, Nursing

Dr. Terri Johnson, Science

**Announcement O&M about Web Pages**

In an effort to continue to improve the usability and functionality of the [uah.edu](http://uah.edu) website, Web Services in the Office of Marketing & Communications has implemented a small database on the site that will make it easier for our Joomla CMS users to update and maintain department/office listing pages and individual faculty/staff pages. Of note: this small database is not connected to Faculty 180.

The greatest benefit to campus that will come from this new Faculty & Staff Page Builder is that more Joomla users on campus will be able to update the Faculty & Staff pages. There will now be at least one person in every college and in every VPs area of responsibility who will be able to directly and quickly make changes to these listings and pages. The new layout and the database also allow us to maintain the accreditation requirement of having a CV (with no personal contact information) for every teaching faculty easily accessible on the website.

To put this database in place we have applied more consistent formatting to the pages across campus. We then scraped the information that was already on the website and populated the database so that there is no need for everyone to fill out information all over again.

You will notice some changes to the layouts of the pages immediately.

Faculty & Staff Listings Pages

1. All listings will display in alphabetical order, except for Deans, Associate Deans, Chairs, Assistant Chairs, Directors and Assistant Directors who will be listed first on the page.

Faculty & Staff Individual Pages

1. Only portraits that have been taken by the University Photographer will be displayed on the listing and individual pages. Any photos that were not taken by the photographer have been removed. If you would like to have your portrait taken you can [book a sitting on the OMC website](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeQOOCHRfF7hh_3P5u6vuz_5k0M1PEVKQUITCZYyel8_xigOQ/viewform).
2. We've removed the right sidebar, and moved that contact information into an in-line box that will appear more prevalently in mobile displays.
3. The Biography section will be where the PDF CV is listed. If the faculty member has a personal professional website or a lab website, for example, we can also link to that site from this section of the page.
4. The headings on the pages have been made consistent across campus, and in some cases, consolidated.
5. We have removed the "Classes Taught" section of the profile as there was no accurate way to keep this information up to date.
6. Publications will be posted with the most recent at the top and in reverse chronological order after that. Only 10 publications will be listed on the page. Any other publications can be listed in the PDF CV.

For now, we have a limited number of users on campus who we've granted access to the Builder so that we could identify any bugs and implement any requested features. Once we are assured that these people are comfortable with the Builder, we will grant access to other high-level Joomla users.

The Builder will not be made available to every individual faculty and staff member. Our website software, Joomla, is not able to handle that many users, and there is some Joomla training that must be done to be able to use the Builder. We have many people on campus trained in Joomla, and with permission to make edits to the website, and the highest-level users in this group will be granted access to the Builder.

If you have changes that need to be made to your individual or listing pages, please email [webmaster@uah.edu](mailto:webmaster@uah.edu) and we will pass along those edits if there is already an assigned Builder Joomla user, or Web Services will make the change for you.