**Administrative Brief for Faculty Senate for April 2021**

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

**4/1/2021**

**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.
* **Shelby Center Lab 341 Renovations** –Substantial completion is scheduled for February 24, 2021. User move-in is scheduled for completion the first of next month.
* **2021 Campus Pavement & Drives Refurbishment** – Beginning in March, North Alabama Paving will conduct various asphalt and concrete pavement repairs as directed by Facilities & Operations through October 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.
* **Campus IT Data Center Hardening Upgrades** – The project is currently in Preliminary Design as we continue to work with the Design Professionals to finalize the programmatic needs for the new facility. Currently, we are planning to submit for a Stage III Submittal to the UAS Board of Trustees in June 2021. The start of construction is anticipated for the Fall of 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.

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**Academic Affairs**

**Dean of the College of Nursing Search**

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

**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.
* Rules for quarantines for vaccinated individuals and rules for visitors/camps on campus this summer, and dining protocol are given in Chancellor St. John’s memorandum of February 22, 2021, given below.

**University Awards for Excellence**

The following faculty will be honored at the virtual ceremony on April 16, 2021 at 3:00pm via Zoom webinar.

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| **Year** | **Award** | **Name** |
| 2021 | Distinguished Teaching\* | Molly Johnson |
| 2021 | Distinguished Research & Creative Achievement\* | Gary Zank |
| ~~2021~~ | ~~Researcher of Year~~ | no nominations |
| 2021 | AHSS | Chad Thomas |
| 2021 | CoB | Yongchuan (Kevin) Bao |
| 2021 | EDU | Ryan Conners |
| 2021 | ENG | Jason Cassibry |
| 2021 | NUR | Tracie Morgan |
| 2021 | SCI | Terri Johnson |
| 2021 | UG Mentor | Sharifa Love-Rutledge |
| 2021 | GR Mentor | Lingze Duan, |
| 2021 | GR Advisor | Ann Bianchi |
|   |   |  |
| 2020 | Distinguished Teaching\* | Jennifer English |
| 2020 | Distinguished Research & Creative Achievement\* | Susan Alexander |
| 2020 | Researcher of Year | Laxman Adhikari, Lingling Zhao |
| 2020 | AHSS | Christina Steidl |
| 2020 | CoB | Frank Mullins |
| 2020 | EDU | Wolfram Verlaan |
| 2020 | ENG | Phillip Ligrani |
| 2020 | NUR | Lori Lioce |
| 2020 | SCI | James Miller |
| 2020 | UG Mentor | Phillip Ligrani |
| 2020 | GR Mentor | Pam O'Neal |
| 2020 | GR Advisor | Sarma Rani |

**Promotion and Tenure** announcements will be made after the Office of Human Resources HR has completed the background checks, in accordance with UAH policy 06.02.03.

**Wellness Day Friday, April 2 to UAH Students and Faculty**:

The Provost and Academic Deans recognize the determined effort you have put forth over this long spring semester and share your concern about the emotional and mental health of each of our students and our faculty.

Therefore, **Friday, April 2, has been declared a “Wellness Day”** on which no classes, presentations, or tests will be conducted and no homework, readings, etc. assigned.

**Important Respondus Monitor Announcement**

March 30, 2021

Due to concerns with Respondus Monitor’s facial detection function, UAH has directed Respondus to disable this function for all UAH users.

The facial recognition function has been turned off by default and cannot be enabled even if faculty are able to check the option in their settings in Respondus. Checking that option will not turn on facial recognition.

Any assessment that faculty have already set up using Respondus Monitor will no longer use facial recognition but should function normally otherwise.

All other exam security features of Respondus Lockdown Browser and Monitor remain unchanged. Students will still be prompted to ensure proper camera positioning before starting the test. Students will still be recorded during the assessment, and their face will still be monitored throughout the session. The videos will be assessed and flagged by AI software.

Respondus has informed us that disabling the facial recognition may result in additional flags by the AI software. Please remember that exam session videos are flagged for further review for various reasons, many of which may not have anything to do with academic misconduct.

Please contact helpdesk@uah.edu with questions or concerns about these changes or Monitor results.

**Pass/Withdraw grading**

As was the case last spring and fall, students will be able to opt-in to Pass/Withdraw grading on a course-by-course basis. This will be included in End of Semester communication to students that will be sent in the coming days. Students will be advised to discuss their individual situation with their advisors, the Office of Financial Aid, and their instructors for full awareness of ramifications.

The opportunity to use the Pass/Withdraw option applies to all levels of courses (Charger Foundations, major courses, minor courses, electives, and graduate courses).

**Registration for Summer 2021 and Fall 2021**

Registration for Summer courses is currently underway. Fall registration started Monday, March 29.

The schedule for Fall registration is given below.

**March 29, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Honors and other priority students

**March 30, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Seniors & Second Bachelor's (91+ earned hours)

**March 31, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Juniors (61-90 earned hours)

**April 2, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Sophomores (31-60 earned hours)

**April 5, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Freshmen (1-30 earned hours)

**April 6, 2021 at 8:00 a.m.**Graduate students; all currently enrolled students

**Summer 2021 Enrollment Date-to Date Comparison**

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| --- | --- |
| Summer 2021 vs Summer 2020 Enrollment Summary |  |
|  |  | This Year |  | Last Year |  | Difference |  % |
| Undergraduate |  | 1491 |  | 1846 |  | -355 | -19.23% |
| Graduate |  | 680 |  | 683 |  | -3 | -0.44% |
| Total |  | 2171 |  | 2529 |  | -358 | -14.16% |
| As of Date |  | 3/29/2021 |  | 3/30/2020 |  |  |  |

**Splitting of the Department of Management, Marketing, and Information Systems in the College of Business into two Departments**

Purpose: to split one department with multiple disciplines into two departments while maintaining discipline integrity

Plan: engage the faculty in the department and seek their input and guidance throughout the process

Process:

1. Dean met with department to initiate discussion of changing the department structure. (Completed December 2020)

2. Dean met with each and every faculty member in the department to listen to and discuss their ideas and concerns. (Completed December 2020)

3. Dean conducted separate meetings with tenured faculty and untenured (tenure track and non-tenure track) faculty. (Completed January 2020)

4. Dean had additional ad hoc meetings with individual faculty at their request. (Completed January 2020)

5. Dean met with department where the faculty requested that a vote be taken. The votes passed 1.) to split into two department; 2.) to align MGT with MKT in one department and align IS with MSC in another department. (Completed February 2021)

6. Dean will meet with individual faculty and groups of faculty members to determine 1.) if faculty are interested in moving Supply Chain Management from MSC to MGT/MKT; 2.) the names of the new academic units. (Anticipate completing in March 2021)

7. When the process is completed, the request for the splitting of the department into two departments and naming both departments will be sent to the Provost, President, and Board of Trustees for approval.

Feedback from the faculty at large and the Faculty Senate is requested by April 2, 2021