

## WMU Provost Weekly Briefings

10/31/19

Happy Halloween, colleagues and friends!

In an effort to keep everyone regularly informed of happenings in the Office of the Provost, Provost Bott has asked that I provide weekly briefings. I hope you will find them helpful, and – as always – I welcome your feedback and suggestions for improvement and efficacy.

Here is the latest:

- Monday morning's Cabinet meeting was primarily dedicated to providing an update on the Strategic Resource Management implementation. Finalized rules – approved by the Cabinet – and a comprehensive update on the process is scheduled for release to the campus community via the dedicated website in the coming weeks.
  - Learn more by visiting the [Strategic Resource Management website](#).
- Tuesday morning's Council meeting featured discussions on the following topics:
  - Disability Services for Students, with an aim to align space and human resources across academic units to maximize services for students, particularly those requiring testing accommodations.
    - A workgroup was identified and tasked with developing a proposal for additional discussion at a December meeting.
  - Graduate tuition and maximizing GA award dollars.
    - A second workgroup was established for taking next steps regarding the maximization of GA funds.
  - Dunbar renovation. Council members toured the building for a baseline understanding of existing challenges as the building renovation planning process continues for Dunbar, a building that houses a great deal of classrooms.
    - Details are available on the [capital projects website](#), as well as the [WMU News story](#) announcing the project in February 2019.
    - Plans will be shared at a Town Hall meeting scheduled for Monday, November 4, 3-5 p.m. in the Bernhard Center Lobby.
- In other meetings, Provost Bott partnered with VP Breneman to discuss state performance metrics; strategized with VP Van Der Kley and members of their teams to forecast university enrollment long-term, discussed corporate engagement opportunities and tactics with VP DeVries, connected with tribal governance leaders to discuss curriculum development opportunities, facilitated an input session among various graduate college stakeholders to gain insight as we progress in the dean search.
- Provost Bott also joined VPs Proudfoot and Anderson to present the third and fourth of four Think Big Town Halls. The presentations to reveal the Big Idea began earlier this month, and wrap up phase 4 of the process. Stay tuned for Phase 5!
  - Current details are always available at the dedicated site: <https://wmich.edu/thinkbig>
- We celebrated Halloween in the Senior Executive Suite by having donuts (with a side of gluten-free cupcakes!) and recognizing Executive Assistant Senior Ann Cox in the Office of the Vice

President for Business and Finance for her 45 years of ongoing service and commitment to the university.

