

## WMU Provost Weekly Briefings

Issue 2

11/8/19

Greetings, campus and community friends!

It is difficult to believe we are already a full week into November. The seasonal shift is taking place, and daylight savings time has ended. Here are some highlights of the work we achieved in our office this week:

1. President's Cabinet. This week's cabinet meeting was graciously hosted by our colleagues and friends at the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, the first stop featured in a series of "on the road" executive leadership meetings. Be watching for members of the cabinet visiting a campus location near you!
  - a. Agenda items included a tour of the college, a discussion on Title IX reporting facilitated by Carrick Craig and Felicia Crawford, and some continued conversations on employee engagement survey results and next steps; Cabinet work teams have assembled to address three primary survey themes that emerged: communication, leadership, and collaboration.
  - b. Provost Bott presented, to her Cabinet colleagues, an update on Spring 2020 enrollment projections and early indicators.
2. Board of Trustees. The November meeting of the board resulted in two primary approvals, both impacting our students starting:
  - a. Apartment rate changes will be effective for fall 2020 and vary based on housing type. Costs were calculated to align with the geographic region and include minor increases. Additional details are available via [wmich.edu/housing](http://wmich.edu/housing).
  - b. The residency policy for graduate students was updated to mirror the existing undergraduate policy; a simplified nonresident graduate student tuition rate structure was also adopted and will take effect summer II of 2020.
  - c. Please visit [wmich.edu/trustees](http://wmich.edu/trustees) for supplemental documents, a full schedule of 2019-20 meetings, and recent board updates and actions.
3. Faculty Senate. The Provost attended both the full senate meeting Thursday evening and the executive board meeting on Friday.
  - a. Thursday evening, Provost Bott and Andrew Holmes presented an update on the Higher Learning Commission site visit scheduled for 2020. Student mental health issues were discussed by Bre Traynor and Jayne Fraley-Burgett, followed by an update on current university construction projects presented by David Dakin.
  - b. For minutes, agendas, meeting schedule, recent memoranda of action, and other details about Faculty Senate, please visit [wmich.edu/facultysenate](http://wmich.edu/facultysenate).
4. Provost Bott, along with Trustee Rinvelt and VP Anderson, attended a "dinner with the administration" hosted by members of the Western Student Association. The event provides WMU student leaders with the opportunity to engage in meaningful dialogue with chosen administrators.

5. The Provost of Grand Rapids Community College, Brian Knetl, visited our office this week, as well, to discuss partnership opportunities with WMU. A follow-up conversation will be scheduled for an upcoming Provost's Council meeting.
6. Concurrent searches for deans of the Graduate College and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences continue to progress, with Dace Copeland, business manager senior, providing administrative support to the committees.
  - a. We have partnered with Parker, a leading executive talent firm, to conduct national searches for these two critical academic leadership opportunities. Input sessions with key stakeholders have now concluded and initial search committee meetings will be forthcoming.
  - b. Thank you to all who have contributed feedback and accepted invitations to serve on committees.