

## Knowles Notes

February 21, 2020

Believe it or not, midterms and spring break are just around the corner! The sun has actually been shining, and it was a productive week in the Office of the Provost. Here is what has been going on:

- President's Cabinet met on Monday morning in Wood Hall, graciously hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences; the following items were on the agenda:
  - [Census 2020](#). Presented by Vice President, Student Affairs, Diane Anderson and Associate Vice President, Community Partnerships, Kara Wood.
  - Negotiation Update. Presented by Provost Bott.
  - [Term-Limited Professorship](#) Nomination. Presented by Vice President, Research and Innovation, Terri Kinzy.
  - Board of Trustees Agenda Items. Presented by Chief of Staff, Kahler Schuemann.
  - Unit Name Change. Presented by Vice President, Diversity and Inclusion, Candy McCorkle.
- The February Academic Forum meeting featured updates on the following topics:
  - Ed Martini, Associate Provost, presented details about WMUx and its upcoming listening tour; a small group activity engaged the forum and provided them an opportunity to provide their feedback on how to improve instruction. [Get involved](#).
  - Evelyn Winfield-Thomas, Executive Director, Institutional Equity and Mark Orbe, Professor of Communication, came to formally announce the collaborative Professional Development Institute. Learn more at <https://wmich.edu/equity/training>.
  - Provost Bott also asked members of the forum to provide suggestions for how to reach every member of academic affairs for ongoing employee engagement efforts. Any recommendations should be shared via email to [office-of-the-provost@wmich.edu](mailto:office-of-the-provost@wmich.edu).
  - The remainder of the time was dedicated to networking and collaborative conversations.
- Other Meetings and Events
  - Along with many of her Cabinet colleagues, Provost Bott attended and delivered remarks at a celebratory event at the College of Aviation in Battle Creek on Monday afternoon; the event was held to formally [announce a partnership with United Airlines called Aviate](#), a program designed to fast-track students from graduation to career.
  - The Strategic Resource Management (SRM) Advisory Group met to discuss their ongoing recommendations as leaders of responsibility centers.
  - Provost Bott also met with members of the Black Student Union, attended a math faculty meeting, participated in a number of academic affairs budget consults, welcomed prospective HESA graduate students at a dinner event, and hosted a regularly scheduled discussion with AAUP officers.