MEMORANDUM

TO: Teaching Faculty
FROM: Barbara G. Lyman
Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
DATE: July 28, 2022
SUBJECT: A Warm Welcome to the 2022-2023 Academic Year with Important Guidance and Support Resources

Please accept this advance welcome to the 2022-2023 academic year! With classes beginning August 29 and our switch from Blackboard to Brightspace being final just one week beforehand on August 22, I am sending an earlier-than-usual letter. In this letter, I not only wish to warmly welcome you but also offer important guidance and support resources on which to rely as you, in turn, prepare to welcome and guide our students, whether they are our continuing students, new transfers, or entering students constituting the Class of 2026!

The unwavering dedication shown by faculty to our students and their success this past academic year helped them to make the most of their college studies, and to thrive despite lingering impacts of the pandemic. Recognizing that pandemic effects have by no means left the faculty unscathed, we are pleased to offer to all faculty a plethora of resources and programs designed by and for faculty scholars through the National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD).

Since our acquisition of an NCFDD institutional membership less than a year ago, thanks to SUNY System support, 124 of your campus colleagues have opened individual subaccounts and have logged more than 450 active sessions. If you have not done so yet, do consider opening an individual account now by completing a few simple steps, starting on NCFDD’s membership page. With an unswerving focus on how faculty can thrive in academia, the NCFDD core curriculum addresses personal and professional strategic planning, scholarly writing productivity, work-life balance, and managing professional relationships. Explore and you will see why so many faculty have signed on and are using NCFDD programs and services.

Finally, please save the date of August 26, 2022, for the Welcome Address of President Darrell P. Wheeler, with breakfast at 8:45 a.m. and the address at 9:30 in Lecture Center 100. Please join the campus community in offering our collective warm welcome to Dr. Wheeler!

Guidance and Resources

- New Student Profile: Fall 2022 incoming class at a glance
- Public Health guidance (see also the updated syllabus documents linked below):
  - Fall 2022 campus COVID-19 policies
  - Class attendance and public health in the classroom
- D2L Brightspace resources and Brightspace Migration Checklist for Faculty
• **Academic Affairs’ Resources:**
  ➢ Syllabus Requirements
  ➢ Syllabus Template (Fall 2022) - Spring 2023 template to be distributed later this fall
  ➢ Faculty Handbook (2022-2023 edition coming soon! Check Academic Affairs’ Resources.)

• **Fall 2022 Academic Calendar** and **final exam schedule** for reference as you finalize your fall course schedules

• **Faculty professional development resources**
  ➢ National Center for Faculty Development & Diversity (NCFDD)
  ➢ Faculty Development Center (FDC)
  ➢ Digital Learning Environment (DLE)
  ➢ Brightspace Faculty Training
  ➢ Online/hybrid course development
  ➢ OIT Events
  ➢ The Service Desk
  ➢ The Accessible Classroom Toolkit (update coming in Fall 2022)

• **Student Resources**
  ➢ Office of Academic Advising (OAA)
  ➢ Center for Student Success (CSS)
  ➢ Office of Veteran & Military Services (OVMS)
  ➢ Division of Student Affairs
  ➢ Disability Resource Center (DRC)
  ➢ Psychological Counseling Center
  ➢ Student Health Center

I hope that the remaining weeks of summer offer you further opportunities to engage in restorative experiences. As you devote attention to the new academic year and fall semester plans, do rely on the guidance and support resources noted in this letter. Please know as well that in addition to having department chair and faculty colleagues to support you as the academic year gets underway, you may also turn to the 2022-2023 interim co-directors of the Faculty Development Center. **Announced via an all-fs email message on July 18**, the interim co-directors are Professors Shannon McManimon, Anthony Dandridge, and Rachel Rigolino. You are encouraged to reach out to them when the fall semester begins.