

Following up on an initiative begun by Deb O'Dell, we are in the final stages of preparing agreements with Shenandoah University for a 3+4 program that will take students toward a PharmD degree. The Academic Affairs Committee has approved a waiver for the catalogue requirement that students take their final credits at UMW. They approved a similar waiver for a 3+3 program with George Mason Law. Drafting of that agreement is also in its final stage.

I will soon be putting out a call for applications inviting Arts and Sciences faculty to apply for \$2500 summer grants to support new pedagogical developments and also, grants to spur interdisciplinary collaboration. The Arts and Sciences Advisory Board will again be funding grants to support unpaid student summer internships. Department Chairs have recommended a May deadline for the student applications.

A team led by Stephen Davies has started developing an M.S. program in Data Science that will be available both to people with a grounding in related areas and those willing to engage in a summer "boot camp" that will provide necessary concepts and skills.

Lynne Richardson and I have been co-chairing a committee to hire an Executive Director for Continuing and Professional Education. The three finalists will be visiting campus in early March.

This has been a remarkable year for faculty productivity in both research publications and teaching. Please continue to send me emails about significant achievements so that I can publicize them through my twitter account.

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