



where great minds get to work

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Faculty Council

FROM: Troy Paino, President 

DATE: September 17, 2020

RE: President's Report

Thanks to UFC and the entire faculty for everything you have done to get ready for this unprecedented year. I am amazed by your level of commitment and effort. From UFC leadership voluntarily participating in countless planning meetings over the summer to over 200 faculty participating in workshops to develop and enhance their online and hybrid teaching, your dedication has inspired. Due to your efforts, I think UMW's distinctive qualities have come into sharper focus amid this pandemic.

The legislature's Special Session has yet to produce a budget, but it appears that the additional \$3.2 million tuition moderation approved by the General Assembly will remain "unallotted." The good news is that it looks like our base appropriation from FY20 will not be cut. We held onto the additional funding to finish the Seacobeck Hall project, but the extra money appropriated for workforce development and the planning for a new theatre will remain "unallotted." As a reminder, we did not raise tuition this year.

While the size of our first-year class is 13% smaller from last year's class, our overall enrollment is relatively flat (4,000 undergraduate and 300 graduate students). With more part-time students, overall credit production is down only 3%. Reduced occupancy in residence halls and the fewer number of weeks with students on campus this fall caused the biggest hit to the auxiliary revenues. We have also experienced an additional \$1.5 million in COVID-19-related expenses (PPE, technology, testing, etc.) thus far. Those expenses will only increase as we prepare for spring semester.

Due to everyone's shared sacrifice and commitment to containing costs, I am confident we can avoid layoffs. With that said, I know the hiring freeze and operating budget cuts have put a tremendous strain on our faculty and staff. Everyone is doing more with less as you all deal with a tremendous amount of stress and anxiety. I am confident your shared sacrifices and effort will put UMW in a strong position on the other side of this pandemic.

I will give a brief update at the UFC meeting on the ongoing work of the Community Advisory Panel chaired by Rhonda VanLowe from the Board of Visitors. This Panel is conducting a review of the UMW Police Department to ensure that their policies, procedures, agreements, and policing of campus and community are consistent with UMW's community values. I will also give an update on the ongoing work of the standing Campus Environment Committee chaired by Dr. Stephen Hanna, as well as a report on the Board of Visitors September 18th meeting.