

MEMORANDUM

TO: University Faculty Council

FROM: Troy Paino, President



DATE: October 14, 2022

RE: President's Report

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a written report on a few matters of importance.

New Theatre

The Board of Visitors requested that I seek greater community input regarding the design of the new theatre on campus. Toward that end, I conducted a virtual presentation on October 5th of the architect's proposed design. Included are the results of the feedback received after that presentation. I also presented the design to donors on October 12th and the Town & Gown Committee on October 13th. I am presenting at an upcoming working session of city council in November.

Accessibility

Paul Messplay is chairing a committee of those directly responsible for facilities and accessibility to recommend how best to invest the \$11+million received to improve accessibility on campus. I will report out on their recommended priorities when they complete their work.

Facility Assessment

We have contracted with a firm to do a comprehensive condition assessment of our facilities. This assessment will help us set priorities in addressing deferred maintenance of our academic, administrative, and auxiliary buildings.

Legislative Agenda

Our top priorities for this year's General Assembly are campus safety, mental health, and increased support for general operations to help with tuition moderation and inflation. It is still early in the process, so I will continue to provide updates on our progress.

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Recruitment and Retention

We are now in the critical stage in the application process for next fall's entering class. Early action/decision deadline is November 1, and typically two-thirds of our applications are received by early December. I am grateful for faculty's engagement in this process as we focus on the top of the applicant funnel over the next two months.

While several other schools experienced a decline in their retention rate during the pandemic, for understandable reasons, UMW's rate improved. This is a testament to the amazing work of our faculty during extremely challenging circumstances. Thank you for your extra effort to support our students amid a difficult teaching and learning environment.

Conversations with the President

Thanks to those faculty and staff who have attended my *Conversations with the President*. Hearing from you is important as we continue to set our priorities to meet the considerable challenges ahead.

I am happy to answer any questions on these or any other matters of interest.