



USC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 10, 2021
Virtual Zoom

In Attendance:

Abigail Henshaw
Alex Iannucci
Andrew Pellens
Ashley Leamon
Brian McCabe
Catherine Ross
Chrissy Quisenberry
Jennifer Jeffery
Kelly Amber
Lauren Kassel
Lisa Harris

Liz Remelius
Lorraine Holt
Maria Coan
Molly Freitag
Muriel Murray
Nathaniel Harrison
Rachel N'Diaye
Ryan Gillon
Sarah Becker
Shawn Proctor
Timothy Bair

Executive Committee Updates:

Elections:

The Office of the President has contacted each Department Head to solicit nominations for new USC representatives. Nominations are due by February 17 and new members will ideally be in attendance for the March meeting.

Community First Update – Chrissy Quisenberry:

The start of the semester brought a surge in new cases which was complicated by the snowstorm. Cases have been traced to small social gatherings. No students have been hospitalized and we have a handle on current cases. Mitigation practices/restrictions were implemented and will continue for a two-week period. We have since seen a decrease in daily new cases and existing cases are improving/recovering. We have quarantine and isolation rooms at the Inn and a local off-campus hotel. Many staff members have volunteered in the Health Center and, with the support of parents, meals for students in quarantine have been prepared and distributed. Food Truck Fridays and fire pits have been cancelled. The University has acquired several board games that will be made available to students (to keep) for "Game Night In." Snack distribution and Villanova beads, face paints, etc. will also be made available to students to show their Villanova spirit while watching basketball games in their residence halls. We are still successfully managing cases on-campus and are hopeful students will follow all guidelines to support a decrease in cases.

Committee Updates:

Communication: No updates

Community: No updates

Staff Development: No updates

Staff Recognition: No updates

Suggestions: One suggestion regarding COVID-19 communications to staff is being reviewed.

Middle States Update:

Villanova University's Self-Study Steering Committee invites the campus community to attend a virtual Community Forum for an opportunity to provide feedback directly to the Self-Study Leadership Team about the Self-Study Draft Report. Community feedback is a critical component of the University's self-study process. The Community Forums will take place Wednesday, Feb. 10, from 3–4 p.m., and Thursday, Feb. 11, from 3:30–4:30 p.m.

Webpage where you can access the Zoom links for the forums (no registration required):

https://www1.villanova.edu/university/president/middlestates/selfstudyreport.htmlutm_source=fsbroadcast.2021.02.10.FAC&utm_medium=newswireEmail&utm_campaign=fsbroadcast

Area Updates:

Charles Widger School of Law:

Celebrating the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Wednesday, February 17 at 4pm

Villanova Law's commemorative Martin Luther King, Jr. keynote address will be presented by Deborah N. Archer, Professor of Clinical Law & Co-Faculty Director of the Center on Race, Inequality, and the Law at New York University School of Law and President of the American Civil Liberties Union. Professor Archer's lecture "Creating Dr. King's 'Beloved Community'" will discuss residential racial segregation. Zoom information to follow.

24th Annual PIFP Auction – Save the Date!

March 26 at 6pm – Zoom link coming soon.

College of Engineering:

The 2021 Ward lecturer is Lillian Dukes '87 MSEE

Engineers' Week 2021 begins on February 21 and culminates on February 26 with the College's annual Patrick J. Cunningham, Jr. and Susan Ward '80 Endowed Lecture Series in Engineering. The 2021 Ward lecturer is Lillian Dukes '87 MSEE, a highly experienced senior operations leader who is currently senior vice president of Technical Operations at Atlas Air. She will address the College of Engineering community on "How Good Engineers Craft Great Careers." This event is required for students in EGR 1002. Career Compass approved for any other students.

https://villanova.joinhandshake.com/events/670578/share_preview?utm_source=coestudentcurrents.2021.02.09.GS&utm_medium=newswireEmail&utm_campaign=coestudentcurrents

So You're Considering Graduate School? Join us for a virtual panel! 2/11 @ 5 PM

As part of our Black History Month celebration, the College of Engineering is hosting a panel on Feb. 11 from 5-6 p.m. with alumni who are pursuing graduate school at other universities and those who are at Villanova earning their advanced degrees.

<https://villanova.zoom.us/j/99905042073#success>

“From the Faculty Perspective” - A Panel for Black History Month 2/25 @ 5 PM

Faculty representing the College of Engineering and departments across the University will share their individual educational journeys and challenges faced; advice for first generation college students; insight on internships, job opportunities and research experiences; the importance of connecting with professors; and thoughts on challenges for underrepresented students at Villanova and ways the University can improve. Join us at the Zoom link below:

https://villanova.zoom.us/j/93489957320?utm_source=coestudentcurrents.2021.02.09.GS&utm_medium=newswireEmail&utm_campaign=coestudentcurrents#success

“Voices of Experience: Alumni Career Panel” for Black History Month 2/18 @ 5 pm

As part of Black History Month, a panel of alumni will share their individual career paths and experiences, the challenges faced as an underrepresented minority and advice for responding to those challenges, the value of role models/mentors/networking, advice for the job search, undergraduate experiences that inspired and influenced their professional choices and advice they wish they'd been given as undergraduates. Join us at the Zoom link

below: https://villanova.zoom.us/j/94528160525?utm_source=coestudentcurrents.2021.02.09.GS&utm_medium=newswireEmail&utm_campaign=coestudentcurrents#success

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences:

- [23rd Annual Villanova University Literary Festival Features National Book Award Winner Robin Coste-Lewis](#)
- [Villanova’s Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest Presents Spring Series on “Decolonizing History”](#)
- [New Book by Villanova University Theology Professor Massimo Faggioli Provides First In-depth Exploration of Joe Biden’s Catholicism in the Context of American Politics](#)
- [Playwright and Writer Hannah Khalil named 2021 Charles A. Heimbold Jr. Chair of Irish Studies at Villanova University](#)
- [Psychology Alumnus Wins American Psychology Association Early Career Award](#)

College of Professional Studies:

In partnership with CLAS, CPS is offering a free, virtual mini-course called **28 Days and Beyond**, taught by Professor Hezekiah L. Lewis III. Interested participants can register for this course on the website: <https://www1.villanova.edu/content/university/professional-studies/academics/personal-enrichment.html>

Enrollment Management:

The Office of Admission is fortunate enough to have received 24,400 applications, breaking our previous University record of just under 23,000.

- Our Early Action and Early Decision I notifications have been shared with applicants.
- We are now working on the new Early Decision II and our traditional Regular Decision process.
- We received applications from all 50 states and more than 100 countries.

In place of our traditional in-person Early Action Candidates Weekend, we have our Virtual Wildcat Welcome Weeks and the schedule for that is as follows:

- Feb 8: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Student Life and the First-Year Experience
- Feb 9: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Nursing
- Feb 10: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Business
- Feb 11: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Liberal Arts
- Feb 15: Parent-to-Parent Panel
- Feb 16: Financial Assistance at Villanova
- Feb 17: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Engineering
- Feb 18: Ask a Wildcat Panel: Sciences

Lastly, we are also offering virtual opportunities for sophomores and juniors who are just discovering Villanova in their college search. These include Villanova Virtual Visits, which include a tour and our Ask A Wildcat Panel series, which focuses on a different topic for each separate iteration as a guide to helping students navigate their college search.

Facilities Management:

Are you passionate about ecological justice? Would you like to deepen your relationship to Earth and others who share this concern? Campus Ministry and the Office Sustainability encourage you to commit to eliminating 2-3 plastic items from your daily life while being more intentional about consumer habits and what that means for the environment and others. You will have the opportunity to engage in supportive community building while meeting new people. Ultimately, the invitation to a **Plastic Free Lent** will allow you to reflect on your daily actions and engage in meaningful dialogue about what it means to live intentionally in our time.

[Facilitator registration is open till Feb 10th and participant registration is open till Feb 14th.](#)

Human Resources:

- Please remember that all staff self-evaluations and supervisor evaluations should be submitted in the system no later than April 1. Visit the [HR website](#) for more information and training opportunities.
- Don't forget to activate your University-sponsored LinkedIn Learning account to access thousands of on-demand training and professional development courses on everything from technology and creative skills to leadership, communication, and meditation. Visit www.villanova.edu/linkedinlearning for more information and to activate your free account.

Mission and Ministry:

Sign Up Here to Receive Lenten Reflections: Get ready for your Lenten journey by signing up to receive this year's daily reflections, written by members of the Villanova community and featuring images of life, work and worship on campus. You can get these brief reflections as emails, a PDF booklet or a print copy.

Fratelli Tutti Fridays: Begins 2/19: Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Fratelli tutti*, focuses on the universal call to love our brothers and sisters in the human family. How does his message challenge us to commit to Caritas on campus and beyond? During Lent, faculty and other experts will take up this question as they highlight various themes in the document and explore how Villanovans can answer this Gospel call to action. Join us for these one-hour virtual talks during Lent. You also have the option of joining a reading group for guided, informal conversations about specific sections of the text. All are welcome. [Learn more and sign up here.](#)

UNIT:

- Supporting the COVID Surveillance Testing on Campus
- Helped with semester start-up
- Continued virtual training and workshops from multiple UNIT departments:
 - <https://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/unit/helpsupport/traininghelp/schedules.html>
- Continued support for different formats of classes
- Staff available for assistance via the Help Desk and TechZone:
 - Live Phone Support: 610-519-7777
- Reminder regarding Digital Signage - if you want anything to be posted or advertised on the campus-wide digital signage system, please feel free to send it along to sarah.becker@villanova.edu

University Advancement:

Villanova received a [\\$10 million gift from Martin G. McGuinn, Esq. '64 CLAS, '67 JD](#) to advance faculty research and increase support for student veterans. In recognition of Mr. McGuinn's lifetime giving, a residence hall in The Commons on Lancaster Avenue will be named McGuinn Hall.

UA is working actively in collaboration with VUAA on virtual plans for Reunion 2021. More information to come next month.

Villanova School of Business:

The VSB ODEI has curated a selection of materials and sessions celebrating Black History Month on their web page <https://www1.villanova.edu/university/business/about-vsbs/2021/diversity-equity-inclusion.html> Please join us as we celebrate the countless contributions of the many black individuals who have impacted our culture and society, both at VSB and beyond.

Black History Events at VSB

- Veritas Voices: A Dialogue Series – Finding Calm Amongst Chaos (2/16)
- Faculty & Staff Cultural Conversation: Reading and discussion (2/18)
- Keynote Speaker Event (End of February)
- Alumni Highlights

Diplomacy and Dialogue with Kim Cahill! Thursday, February 11 at 12:00 p.m.

This Thursday, The [Consular Corps Association of Philadelphia](#) and [Citizen Diplomacy International's](#) Diplomacy and Dialogue program will be highlighting a conversation with our own Director, [Kim Cahill](#). The discussion will focus on the best ways to promote global opportunities and prepare emerging leaders to compete in the 21st Century workforce as responsible global citizens. Cahill is an associate member of CCAP, serves on the MidAtlantic District Export Council, and was a 2015 recipient of the prestigious Fulbright IEA award. Register [here](#).

U.S. News Rankings of VSB Online Masters Programs

VSB has once again ranked highly in the annual U.S. News & World Report Best Online Graduate Business Programs, and the Best Online MBA ranking, earning the #5 and #17 spots respectively.

VSB has consistently placed highly in the Best Graduate Online Business Programs since the ranking's inception in 2014, for the Master of Science in Church Management program and more recently for our Master of Science in Analytics program. Maintaining our top-ten rank for seven years running is commendable!

The Villanova Online MBA program ranked #17 overall. This is the fourth year we have participated in the Online MBA ranking, and we're excited to again be in the top 20 especially given all of the new entrants to this marketplace. The Villanova Online MBA also made the list of top programs for several specialty areas, including #17 in Best Online General Management MBA Programs, #19 in Best Online Finance MBA Programs, and #25 in Best Online Business Analytics MBA Programs.

Stepping Up for Staff: An op-ed by Dean Russell

An OpEd that the VSB Marketing and Communication Team worked on with Dean Joyce E. A. Russell, Terrill Drake and Cathy Toner about the innovative Staff Advisory Council at VSB. It was featured in the AACSB newsletter, link below.

[Stepping Up for Staff](#)

The Villanova School of Business builds a better community by listening to the voices of staff members.

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:

Aequitas: Presidential Task Force on Race will be holding a webinar on February 25 at Noon. Registration link will be sent when available. Please visit the [Aequitas webpage](#) for more information.

No Updates:

Athletics
Auxiliary Services
Financial Affairs
Falvey memorial Library
M. Louise Fitzpatrick College of Nursing
Office of the Provost
Student Life
University Communications and Marketing

Adjournment

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 2:00pm