

University Updates

Bashar Hanna <president@commonwealthu.edu>

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To:CU All Employees <allemployees@commonwealthu.edu>

Dear Commonwealth University Faculty and Staff:

During Commonwealth University's first year as an integrated institution in the 2022-23 academic year, the administration and faculty together updated and launched an entirely new curriculum, creating an academic array modernized for the needs of our students and consistent with the expectations of today's employers. During our second year, as we work toward the full implementation of the new array, we have undertaken a review of the academic administrative structure to determine how we can best utilize the strength of our faculty members and their impact on serving our students.

As we look ahead to the third year of Commonwealth University's service to Pennsylvania, we continue to seek ways of delivering our educational resources in the most effective and efficient ways possible. After thoughtful consideration and commitment to continually assess and evolve how we can best serve students, I am announcing changes to the university's academic and administrative structures in the areas of Academic Affairs, Student Success and Campus Life, and Strategic Communications and Marketing.

Academic Affairs

Effective with the 2024-25 academic year following approval by the Council of Trustees, we will consolidate our five existing colleges into three:

- The College of Science and Technology and the College of Health Professions will be consolidated into the **College of Health, Science, and Technology**.
- The College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities will merge with the College of Education and Human Studies to become the **College of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences**.
- The **Zeigler College of Business** will restructure its five departments into two.

Dean James Brown had previously indicated an interest in returning to the faculty, and will do so in the fall. Dean Leo-Felix Jurado will assume a role of Senior Associate Dean within the reorganized college. The leadership and organization of the colleges is identified below.

College of Health, Science, and Technology



College of Arts, Humanities, Education and Social Sciences



Zeigler College of Business



We have been working closely with the senior academic administration to implement these changes. The results include a reduction in the number of academic departments from 28 to 18.

In reorganizing the academic departments, we will work cooperatively with our faculty to help develop new relationships with colleagues in the reorganized departments and navigate changes to processes such as chair elections. Additionally, through this process we have identified ways to realign academic departments to put more experienced faculty in the classroom to enhance the educational experience of the students.

Student Success and Campus Life

With the elimination of the Vice President of Student Success and Campus Life (SSCL) position, our colleague and current Vice President of SSCL and Mansfield Campus Administrator, Dr. Martha “Marty” Wygmans, will depart the university effective August 31, 2024. The units within SSCL will transition to the Divisions of Academic Affairs or Enrollment Management. To minimize any impact on students, this transition will commence immediately following Spring 2024 commencement and will conclude before the beginning of the Fall 2024 semester. The role of Mansfield Campus Administrator will transition to a new Mansfield Administrator effective July 1, 2024.

Strategic Communications and Marketing

Bill Walker, Interim Vice President for Strategic Communications and Marketing, has informed me of his intent to step down effective June 30, 2024. With his departure, Nikki Keller, Senior Director of Enrollment Marketing, will assume the role of Executive Director of Strategic Communications and Marketing.

Bashar W. Hanna, Ph.D.
President
Commonwealth University of Pennsylvania
Bloomsburg | Lock Haven | Mansfield

Phone: 570.389.4526

Email: president@commonwealthu.edu