



MONTHLY PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE

July 20, 2018

Dear Trustees,

July 11 marked the first 100 days of my presidency, which have led to a focus on our values as an institution and the importance of transparency and collaboration. The dedication and willingness of the community to participate is overwhelming and has set us on a course to be able to meet our challenges and map out our aspirational vision and future.

Board Chair Alison Madsen and I have worked on priorities and setting goals for the Office of the President. We wanted to join efforts this month to include in my presidential update a message from the Board Chair, which follows my monthly update below.

SUMMER BOARD RETREAT

Plans are almost finalized for the New Trustee Orientation and Board Retreat **on August 7 and 8**. Our agenda includes an engaging visioning discussion based on our findings of the last Board meeting breakout session; presentations by Cathy Trower, Ph.D., of the consulting firm of Trower & Trower, at the orientation on what new trustees need to know and at the retreat about governance in complex times; and the introduction of a new paperless Board portal software system which will assist us in communicating with Trustees and managing all Board materials in an efficient and secure manner. Spouses and partners are welcome, as museum tours, lunches, and other activities are planned for them in Philadelphia and the surrounding area. We look forward to an enjoyable and productive two days.

INAUGURATION UPDATE

Inauguration celebration plans are coming together for events the week of Monday, Oct. 8 with a formal installation ceremony on Saturday, Oct. 13. Invitations will be mailed the end of July for a September RSVP requested. The Inauguration Committee meets weekly and is comprised of trustees, faculty, staff, students, and alumni. The week of events includes Family Week, Faculty Forum, Lecture Series, Glenside Knight-Community Food Truck Festival, Installation Ceremony, and Inauguration Celebration. As faculty and students return to campus, the Committee looks forward to welcoming individuals and organizations interested in being involved in the planning of events. More information is at www.arcadia.edu/Inauguration

ENROLLMENT UPDATE

As of data from July 16, new incoming first-year numbers stood at 492, and new incoming transfers at 62. We are still receiving applications for first-year students each week as well as transfer students, a cohort we are continuing to build. We also are working closely with new first-year applicants and maintaining regular contact with students who have already deposited to minimize “melt.” The cancellation rate for Fall 2018 is higher than last year, point-in-time, so summertime priorities include working to make sure that students have filed for all the financial aid that they can receive, including loans, and following up with both those who have and those who have not yet attended New Student Orientation.

ARCADIA UKNIGHTED - STEERING COMMITTEES

All of the Arcadia UKnighted committees have met several times and will continue to convene throughout the summer. They are comprised of staff, faculty, students, and alumni, with administrators serving as both participants and resources.

- Budget Committee - This committee facilitated three open sessions that were well attended on financial literacy for the Arcadia community (more sessions will be scheduled). They will address the collected entrepreneurial ideas offered by the community for viability in the upcoming weeks.
- Shared Governance and Transparency Committee - This group has done its due diligence in collecting shared governance and communication practices from comparable institutions. They will explore the primary and secondary stakeholder expectations within committee structures.
- Aspirational Committee - Members continue to collect the past and present goals and visions from all University units. They are exploring potential collaboration with a company named CFAR to support the strategic planning process.

Arcadia UKnighted, the web portal for the campus conversations and committees, is at www.arcadia.edu/uknighted.

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF DIRECT REPORTS

This summer and fall will commence evaluations for several departments that are direct reports to the Office of the President. Evaluations for the offices of University Advancement, University Relations, and General Counsel have been completed or are scheduled to commence before the start of the academic year. Enrollment Management will go through an evaluation later this fall. Recommendations and action steps will be presented to the Board periodically.

SHORT-TERM AND LONG-TERM BOT RECRUITMENT STRATEGY

To continue to cultivate a strong Board of Trustees at Arcadia University, the Secretary to the University is developing a short-and long-term strategy for the recruitment of future Board of Trustee members. Details of this Recruitment Strategy will be ready to share with the Board shortly.

SNAPSHOT OF PRESIDENTIAL ENGAGEMENT

World Trade Center of Greater Philadelphia (WTC)
Officials from the Office of Senator Bob Casey Jr.
Patti DeBow, former Board member
Dr. Suneet Chauhan, Honorary Degree Recipient
John and Teresa Rollins
Isaac and Maddy Stein
Robert Cort and Rosalie Swedlin
Harvard University Seminar for New Presidents
Media interview – Chronicle of Higher Education
Media interview – World Trade Center of Philadelphia
Media interview – City Wide Stories (T/C)

Thank you,

Ajay Nair, Ph.D.
President

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Fellow Trustees,

Here is a review of recent activity:

- The Executive Committee of the Board will meet next week to discuss the President's goals for '18-'19. Compensation consultant Charlie Scott will join the Executive Committee meeting to review proposed goals and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for measuring progress on Presidential performance.
- Ajay has also been working independently on his goals and KPIs for next year. Once he receives feedback from the Executive Committee, he will present a proposal at the Board retreat.
- Ajay has engaged an Executive Coach to assist him with management performance; the coach was referred through a contact of mine, and I am satisfied in his credentials.
- Ajay attended the Harvard University Seminar for New Presidents in July. He and I will debrief and discuss topics relating to President/Board relations.
- Ajay, his staff, and I are finalizing agendas and content for the Board retreat on August 7 and 8.

Also, I have interviewed an investment adviser from Morgan Stanley. With Eric Nelson's guidance, we would like her to present to the Finance committee (or a subset therefore) for informational purposes and potentially to engage as an adviser. This should transpire

in late August. Information regarding other investment portfolio advisors will be presented as well.

Like I hope many of you have been, I have been enjoying the “down” time that summer brings. I am reading two books that, if satisfactory for Board development, will be distributed to all Trustees. Meanwhile, I am culling other informative articles for insertion onto our portal. And, I am enjoying my grandkids and the beach! Take care everyone.

Best,

Alison (Aaron) Madsen
Chair, Board of Trustees