



May 25, 2018

Dear Campus Community,

As President, I intend to send monthly updates to the Board of Trustees that focus on topics addressed in our quarterly meetings and on presidential initiatives on campus.

To begin, I am pleased to share the happy news of the healthy arrival of Finnegan Byron (7lbs., 13oz) to Kevin Muldoon and his wife, Regina. We wish the proud parents the best with their new bundle of joy.

SUMMER BOARD RETREAT

This summer we will host a two-day **Board retreat**. In addition to onboarding new Trustees, we will use this time for the Board and administration to: focus on acclimating new Board members to Arcadia; deepen relationships among Board members, management, and community; and promote strategic thinking among Board members. Please keep an eye out for an invitation from Joemille in the next week.

SAVE THE DATE: INAUGURATION Oct. 11 - 13

Planning is underway for an Inauguration this fall, coinciding with the next Trustee meeting, Family Weekend, and the Annual Glenside-Arcadia Welcome. The celebration planning will be led by Co-Chairs Laura Baldwin and Mary McRae, who will convene a committee of faculty, staff, students, alumni, and a recent graduate trustee. More on the theme and specific event information will follow this summer. Please mark your calendars for Thursday, Oct. 11, through Saturday, Oct. 13.

SPRING PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE TO COMMUNITY

The Spring Presidential Update to the community, seen below, focused on the last Board of Trustees meeting:

Dear Arcadia University community:

In the six weeks I have been at Arcadia, I have noted a palpable energy among this University community. The skills and strengths of our community members elicit feelings of unbridled optimism and encouragement. While there is much we have to do, I become more convinced with each passing day that we all share similar goals and aspirations for Arcadia.

I wanted to share with you a few updates and reflections on important University initiatives that we have addressed or have worked on during this spring semester.

The Board of Trustees is encouraged by and supportive of the collaborative work University members engaged in during the April 20 campuswide working-session. Feedback and themes compiled from that working session have led to the establishment of a Budget Task Force, a Shared Governance Committee, and a 5- and 10-Year Aspirational Committee. Thank you to all of our community members who have volunteered to participate in this important work.

Moving forward, the raw dialogue and themes recorded at the April 20 working session will be shared on “Arcadia UKnighted,” a new community website portal. This site, which we plan to launch before Commencement, will serve as an interactive forum for discussion.

Last week’s Board meetings, the first of which I participated in as President, were rich in dialogue and deliberation, and set a positive tone for the manner in which we will work together.

The Board has appointed three new Trustees: Elliott Roth, MBA, CPA, partner at EisnerAmper LLP in Philadelphia, Pa., and Iselin, N.J.; James Wagner, Ph.D., President Emeritus of Emory University; and school counselor and psychotherapist Alexandra Mamolou ’14, who earned a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology of Arcadia. We are fortunate to have three such accomplished individuals serve as Trustees, and we look forward to their contributions.

Our sincerest thanks to our Trustees who are leaving the Board for all of their hard work and dedication, including Lois Haber ’71, ’16H, a distinguished alumna, former Board Chair (2005-2010), and member of several Board committees including the Presidential Search Committee; Robert Putney, whose knowledge in the field of law proved an asset to several committees, including Audit, Finance and Infrastructure, Governance, and the Investment Subcommittee; Susan Saxer ’71, an alumna whose business acumen helped to provide clarity and financial vision; and Thora Easton ’68, whose three-decade career in technology served our Finance and Infrastructure Committee well.

In an effort to ensure a smooth flow of information, updates that are critical to our work as a University will be communicated through channels such as “Arcadia UKnighted,” separate news stories, and general updates from representatives of Faculty Senate, Student Affairs, and Staff Council. This will help all of us provide appropriate context for Board matters and make information more accessible to the community.

It was a joy to meet the hundreds of alumni and their families who returned to campus for a vibrant Alumni Weekend. Meeting our alumni serves as yet another reminder of how life-changing the Beaver College and Arcadia University experience is for so many.

Next week, we will award degrees to more than 1,000 undergraduate and graduate students. I am very much looking forward to presiding over my first Commencement ceremonies at Arcadia -- with perfect, sunny weather, of course -- as we welcome the Arcadia University Class of 2018 to our alumni family.

My time as President continues to be challenging and rewarding, and elicits in me feelings of great promise and excitement about our future. Together, we will do great things.

*Sincerely,
Ajay Nair, Ph.D.*

ARCADIA UKNIGHTED

The Office of the President officially launched its first online initiative, the forum [Arcadia UKnighted](#). The feedback and raw data yielded from the April 20 working-sessions have been posted to Arcadia UKnighted, where members of the University community can engage in dialogue, collaborate on initiatives, and contribute feedback to help enhance the Arcadia experience for students, alumni, faculty, and staff. We encourage you to review the five major themes discussed and offer comments and feedback.

The compiled feedback and themes have led to the establishment of three steering committees: a Budget Task Force, a Shared Governance Committee, and an Aspirational Committee (5-and 10-year). We will update Arcadia UKnighted regularly once these committees have met and when we have information to share with the community. www.arcadia.edu/UKnighted

DINING SERVICES VENDOR

The University is moving forward with contract negotiations with Metz Culinary, the company replacing Parkhurst Hospitality Group as our new dining services provider. Arcadia's current dining employees will have an opportunity to continue their employment with Metz. Employees will need to go through a basic screening process, which is customary when a change in employers occurs.

A selection committee of students, faculty, and staff, chaired by Director of Auxiliary Services Mimi Bassetti, managed the dining services selection process. We anticipate the new service to commence once the contract is finalized, with Metz Culinary in place before the start of the new academic year.

FACULTY SALARY LINE REDUCTIONS

The University administration engaged the community to continue to work on ways to reduce faculty salary lines. To date, we have six full-time faculty members who have pursued voluntarily leaving, taking the opportunity for an institutional buyout. In addition, two faculty members have applied for early retirement benefits. Conversations and communications thus far indicate that, while bittersweet, several faculty are pleased and feel they were treated respectfully during the process.

COMMENCEMENT

The spirits of 1,000 students earning doctoral, master's, and baccalaureate degrees were not dampened by the threat of rain during the 162nd Arcadia University Commencement ceremonies on May 17 and 18 at Kuch Center Alumni Gymnasium. Suneet P. Chauhan '79, M.D., professor at the University of Texas Health McGovern Medical School, and Hank Brown, J.D., former U.S. Senator and Representative of Colorado, received honorary doctoral degrees and addressed students at the Graduate and Undergraduate ceremonies, respectively. Also, Kathy Valverde, professor and chair of Genetic Counseling, was named Professor of the Year.

YEARS OF SERVICE LUNCHEON - MARTHA WASHINGTON AWARD

On May 23, more than 200 faculty and staff members gathered in the Kuch Center Alumni Gymnasium for the annual Years of Service event. Community members were recognized for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and 50 years of service, and employees who retired during the past academic year also were honored. During the event, Dr. Pradyumna Chauhan, professor of English, and Dr. Finbarr O'Connor, professor and chair of Philosophy and Religion, were recognized for an extraordinary 50 years of service to Arcadia. Their tenures are truly an inspiration to all in the University community.



In addition, the following special awards were presented:

The Martha Washington Award for Distinguished Service went to Sharon Knight, Facilities and Housekeeping for the Grey Towers Castle.

Cultural Ally Awards were presented to Meredith Mashner, director of International Student Services; Dr. Jonathan Church, professor of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice; and Amy Cox, director of the International Peace and Conflict Resolution Program.

A new award, the Wes Rose Access and Inclusion Award, was presented to Scott Rawlins, professor of Visual Arts, and Tom Macchi, associate vice president for Facilities and Capital Planning.

The following faculty awards also were presented:

- The Ellington Beavers Fund for Intellectual Inquiry, to Dr. James Casey, assistant professor of English
- The Thomas P. Dougherty Endowed Faculty-Student Research Award, to Dr. Yanxia Jia, associate professor of Computer Science
- The Dr. Norman Johnston Faculty Fellowship in the Humanities and Social Sciences, to Dr. Bruce Campbell Jr., associate professor in the School of Education
- The Marie-Louise and Eugene Jackson International Fund, to Dr. Aroline Hanson, assistant professor of Modern Languages

TCGS HOSTING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS

The annual NAFSA conference of international educators will be held in Philadelphia this coming week. The Association of International Educators is the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to international education. The College of Global Studies will be hosting a reception on Sunday 27 May on the Grey Tower Castle green for 65-75 of our important overseas partner universities.

STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION UPDATES

The first month of my tenure brought some key changes for the University's leadership:

- Kevin Muldoon will be the Assistant to the Secretary and will be relocating to the Office of General Counsel to work closely with Margie Callahan in her position as Secretary to the University.
- April Wanser will join the Office of the President as Executive Assistant to the President. Her main responsibility will be office scheduling.
- Laura Baldwin, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer, and Margie Callahan, Deputy General Counsel, were appointed to President's Cabinet.
- Mike Korolishin will retire as General Counsel effective June 1.
- Margie Callahan was appointed Interim General Counsel starting June 1.

BIOCOAT STRATEGY

In November 2017, Mike Korolishin was asked to represent Arcadia's interest in Biocoat, Inc., and was elected to that company's Board of Directors to serve a one-year term. At a Shareholders Meeting on May 11, 2018, Mike was elected to serve on the Board for an additional three-year term. Mike has developed a comprehensive knowledge of the inner operations of the company and currently votes the shares of

Arcadia at shareholder meetings. Arcadia will also appoint an Arcadia employee to attend Biocoat, Inc., shareholder meetings in the future to work with Mike and ensure that Arcadia's best interests are considered.

For our new Trustees, Biocoat, Inc., was founded by Ellington Beavers. Ellington worked for 40 years with Rohm and Haas Company in Philadelphia and joined the Board of Trustees of Beaver College. He received permission to conduct research in laboratories in Boyer Hall, which led to 11 patents and a number of other patent applications. Through this work he founded Biocoat, Inc., which was incorporated in 1991. Arcadia owns 16 shares of the company. Biocoat, Inc., develops and licenses biomaterial coatings for medical devices that are custom engineered to meet client design parameters. Its specialty is supplying lubricious hydrophilic coatings for medical devices. Click [here](#) to read more about Biocoat, Inc.

MIDDLE STATES

The Middle States Self-Study process is proceeding along the timeline established in the Self-Study Design that was distributed and discussed with our Middle States Vice President Liaison Dr. Christy Faison in May 2017. Each of the working groups has generated a reflective report on its assigned standards.

The Self-Study Co-Chairs Drs. Nancy Rosoff and Jonathan Shandell will be preparing the first draft of the narrative over the next six weeks. In August, campus community members that are experienced Middle States evaluators will review the draft. A revised draft is expected to be distributed in early September.

On Oct. 15, Keith Taylor, president of Gannon University, will be on campus for the Evaluation Team Chair's Preliminary Visit. During that visit, he will meet with campus constituency groups, including Trustees, and provide feedback on the Self-Study report and documentation. The final Self-Study report will be due around start of the new year in 2019. We are in the process of scheduling the Evaluation Team Visit for late February or early March 2019.

UNION

We are working to develop the initial contract with the Adjunct Faculty Union. We will be increasing the number of meetings with the Union in June, with the goal to have a draft of an initial contract ready by the start of the 2018-2019 academic year this fall.

Please note: This is a confidential communication and not meant for public distribution.

Please enjoy your holiday weekend!

Ajay