



MONTHLY PRESIDENTIAL UPDATE September 21, 2018

Dear Campus Community,

Buoyed by the energy and the ideas sparked by the campuswide meeting in April, I was delighted to see more than 150 members of our community yesterday at the Sept. 20 brown-bag lunch. We will post more about the event on [Arcadia UKnighted](#), the website hub for Presidential initiatives, with information updates, charges and work of the committees, and opportunities to contribute.

PRESIDENTIAL AND UNIVERSITY GOALS

In my presentation to the University community, I shared the goals and objectives set by the Board of Trustees for the President and the University for this year (2018-19), with some goals extending into 2019-20. While mission-critical University goals are also presidential goals, it is vital that the community be informed of the specific objectives and work together with the President toward fulfilling those goals.

The full list of goals and objectives will be posted on the Arcadia UKnighted website next week and will include the additional information on each of the eight goals.

- Goal 1:** Identify high-impact, short-term opportunities to advance Arcadia University.
- Goal 2:** Build a unified, engaged, and well-prepared Arcadia community to enable positive tactical and strategic change over the next several years.
- Goal 3:** Develop the brand narrative.
- Goal 4:** Assess Arcadia's Advancement Strategy.
- Goal 5:** Build an Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) system.
- Goal 6:** Develop and measure appropriate Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to deliver to the Board on a regular reporting basis; establish a dashboard/scorecard to inform the Board of important data; evaluate periodically and revise.
- Goal 7:** Enhance Arcadia's profile on a national and global scene.
- Goal 8:** Maximize Presidential Transition and Development as a CEO.

UNIVERSITY CENSUS FOR 2018-2019

At the start of the new academic year, numbers for the Class of 2022 stand at 472 students, with an additional 72 new transfer students. The total undergraduate enrollment number is 2,160, with 1,911 being full-time.

The total graduate enrollment of 1502 includes 482 full-time and 1,020 part-time students. The total graduate and undergraduate enrollment for the Fall 2018 census is 3,662 students.

As we align the actual census numbers and the final budget strategies, we need to face certain realities as a community. The critical questions we are contemplating with the community and the Board of Trustees are:

- How will Arcadia shape the relevance of a residential liberal arts model for the 21st century? How does this model support the intersections between a liberal arts education and professional education?
- How can we support our faculty and other stakeholders to continue to innovate in the liberal arts and professional education?
- How do we ensure that this model continues to educate for global citizenship, leadership, service, and work-readiness for our graduates?
- What resources do we need to support our mission? How can we build a shared understanding of our destination?

UPDATE ON THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

As you know, Provost John Hoffman has decided to step down, for personal reasons, from his role as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, effective Sept. 30. I extended my deepest thanks to John for his decades of service to Arcadia.

I recently appointed Dr. Rebecca Kohn to serve as Special Assistant to the President on Academic Affairs until a new Provost is identified. In this role, Rebecca is the chief academic officer until we select a new Provost.

During this transition, Rebecca will maintain her role as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. I will work with Rebecca, Faculty Senate, and administration to develop the process for a national search for a new Provost.

Moreover, as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Rebecca has been working on significant academic challenges that the University is addressing. With this additional role, Rebecca will be uniquely positioned to help lead efforts to secure the future of liberal arts at Arcadia, as well as further integrate the College of Global Studies, College of Health Sciences, School of Global Business, School of Education, and College of Arts and Sciences.

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF DIRECT REPORTS

The evaluations for the offices of University Advancement, University Relations, and General Counsel are complete, and the final reports have been received from our reviewers. These evaluations will continue our work to build trust and transparency. As I review and process these evaluations, I will share a summary of the recommendations with the community on the UKnighted webpage.

Through this important work we hope to establish a model for organizational evaluations across the University. Our work will form a readiness assessment for the strategic planning process we are about to begin. Below is the schedule for the evaluation process:

Enrollment Management/Student Affairs	Fall 2018
Academic Affairs	Spring 2019
The College of Global Studies	Summer 2019
Finance and Administration	Summer/Fall 2019

UPCOMING UKNIGHTED EVENTS

Several UKnighted initiatives are planned for the 2018-2019 academic year to generate ideas and inform on the upcoming year, including:

- **Communitywide Conversations:** Everyone is encouraged to talk, raise ideas, and help us to explore. Some Communitywide Conversations will focus on campus topics to help the community consider steps forward.
- **Pretzels with the President, Saturday, Sept. 22:** An informal gathering of 50 undergraduate and graduate students, selected through a lottery, at the President's house to talk and snack. (Upcoming dates Oct. 22, 2018; March 22, 2019)

EMBRACE THE THEME

Inauguration Week is fast approaching, and plans for the installation ceremony and celebration on Saturday, October 13 are well on their way. As we welcome guests, friends, and families to our campus, I hope that we can use the theme, "Reimagining Our Higher Education Community: From Inclusion to Justice," to spark conversation and contemplate what it would mean for Arcadia to be a truly just community.

Members of our community, students, staff, and faculty have shared on video their thoughts and reflections on how the theme is integrated into their lives. You can view their videos at arcadia.edu/inauguration. I hope you also will share your thoughts on how the theme connects with you.

Sincerely,

Ajay Nair, Ph.D.

President

EXTERNAL PRESIDENTIAL ENGAGEMENT

“Meet President Nair” Alumni Engagement

- King of Prussia Alumni Reception
- Washington, D.C. Alumni Reception

Brian Blake, Provost, Drexel University

Changing the National Conversation: Inclusion and Equity (University of Pennsylvania)

Cheltenham School District Board

Julie Haywood, CSD Board President

Joel Fishbein, CSD Board Vice President

John Fry, President, Drexel University

Senator Patrick Toomey, Russell House, Washington, D.C.

SEPCHE Presidents Retreat

William Penn Foundation