January 28, 2016

Dear Students, Faculty and Staff,

Happy New Year and welcome to the spring 2016 semester! We are making excellent progress on our Pleasantville campus renewal strategy and I want to provide this brief update.

Below is an update on the Pleasantville Project. The Pleasantville Project is a collaborative initiative designed to increase the quality and attractive power of the Pleasantville Campus. The overarching goal of the project is to increase enrollment and retention in Pleasantville, ensuring that the major investments the University is making in the campus yield desired results. I’d like to share with you exciting progress that is being made toward that goal.

Academics:

**Dyson**
Dyson College has initiated the new Dyson College Institute for Sustainability and the Environment, with its headquarters on the PLV campus in the Dyson Environmental House, the former farmhouse, at the Environmental Center Complex. This new Institute will serve as the environmental hub for Pace University, bringing together faculty and students throughout the University that have interest in environmental issues as well as expanding academic opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. The Institute has six branches; The Department of Environmental Studies and Science; the Academy for Applied Environmental Studies; the Environmental Consortium of Colleges and Universities; the Dyson College Nature Center; the Institute for Environmental and Regional Studies; and the Dyson College Center for the Arts, Ecology and Society.

**Lubin**
Lubin’s new programs are gaining traction. The Sports Marketing program continues to grow and currently has 22 students. A new faculty member with an International reputation, Dr. Tony Meenaghan, has been hired. A sports marketing information session was held in the fall semester and garnered much student interest. Sports Marketing internships are increasing and are expected to help Lubin grow the program.

Healthcare Management is a concentration in Management designed to help students obtain positions in the growing Healthcare management and administration field. The concentration launched in the spring 2016 semester and now has 9 students in the program. Incoming students have expressed interest and we expect them to transfer into the program when they are sophomores and juniors.

**School of Education**
The School of Education is providing new certifications to meet market demands.

- A 24-credit online Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies (CAGS) for School Business Learners
- An additional early childhood certificate for students who have obtained a BA in childhood education.
Additional certification in TESOL or bilingual extension for in-service teachers

We are happy to be celebrating the 50th anniversaries of the Lienhard School of Nursing and the School of Education this year.

The University Relations Marketing Sub-Committee of the Pleasantville Project Committee has been coordinating marketing plans for the 50th anniversary celebrations of the Lienhard School of Nursing and the School of Education. Students, staff, faculty and community members can look for special websites, events, activities and pole banners in Pleasantville to commemorate the special celebrations in calendar year 2016.

In keeping with our media strategy of promoting exceptional academics on the Pleasantville campus, University Relations recently helped secure media coverage for the work of Psychology professor Anthony Mancini’s research on psychological improvement after acute stress as well as for STEM Women Achieve Greatness, or SWAG, a 9 week Pace program that started Oct. 3 for high schoolers in which they build robots and receive instruction from Pace’s Seidenberg School faculty. University Relations has been working with Seidenberg on developing a collaborative technology visibility and marketing plan.

Student Affairs continues to work on increasing student persistence. An assessment plan was developed to demonstrate how the learning, co-curricular connection to faculty, staff and peers helps to improve student persistence. This plan allows us to develop benchmarks on student performance and involvement to set targets for this academic year and the next. It has been visible this past semester that our campus is more vibrant since the opening of alumni hall and adding over 500 residential students to the Pleasantville campus. The First Year Interest Groups (FIG) in Alumni hall has brought in more faculty into the student residences than in the past. We will have results to share soon.

The Division for Student Success (DSS) is partnering with the College of Health Professions and a number of other divisions across the University on a brand new initiative: “Glocal Experiential Learning Opportunities.” The goal is to offer every Pace student the opportunity to develop cross-cultural understanding and cultural intelligence with “glocal” experiences. (A Glocal Experiential Learning Opportunity is an experience that allows an individual to develop global awareness and cross-cultural understanding locally.) These experiences are being folded into the Pace Path as well.

We are pleased to announce that the overall University first-year, full-time retention rate for the 2014 cohort is 77.6% for all students (including CAP). This is significant as it marks not only an increase in the retention rate, but it is the first time since the 2001-2003 cohorts that we have seen three consecutive years of 76% or better.

Due to intensive marketing and creation of a more robust system, the Division for Student Success reached an all-time high of faculty reporting on students who are potentially at risk through the Academic Alert system: 80%! This enables Advisors to do outreach to do timely interventions with these students and get them back on track.

The Tutoring Center reached an all-time fall semester high of 8,000 students using the services! (We are on track to surpass the 2014-2015 all-time high of 15,000 students.)

The fall Athletics teams had a good season. Student Athletes achieved a 3.21 average GPA for the fall semester. Each team had representation on their respective Northeast-10 All-Conference Teams. The women’s soccer team earned a second straight bid to the ECAC Division II Championship Tournament. All totaled, Pace student-athletes have collected 42 weekly or post-season honors this year.
The Setters have been active in the community with more than 1,000 hours of service to various organizations and events this fall. One of the biggest efforts by Pace student-athletes was the annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure where more than 100 student-athletes participated.

Development

Trustee David Pecker ’72 and his wife Karen have made a commitment of $1 million including support for the Publishing Program at Dyson College, with which he has long been affiliated, as well as the Campaign for Pleasantville and the Annual Fund. The new lecture hall in Willcox will be named in his honor in recognition of this gift. We also received a commitment of $25,000 from Barry Klarberg ’81 for Alumni Hall. The Campaign for Pleasantville has raised $4.1 million to date.

The Westchester President’s Council is growing as well. Two trustee liaisons have joined the council; Photine Anagnostopoulos and Cynthia Greer Goldstein ‘81. Council member David Swope hosted an event at his home this fall which attracted an impressive group of local leaders, alumni, and non-profit representatives. President Friedman gave an update to the group on the advances on the Pleasantville campus.

This year’s Pleasantville Homecoming and Family Weekend which took place from October 15-18 was a tremendous success. There is much enthusiasm among alumni for the exciting changes to our athletics facilities, as evidenced by the more than 300 people who came to the Alumni Tent during the Homecoming Football Game. There was also a successful alumni lacrosse game to start the day and a family brunch which drew more than 100 guests. The third annual Faces of Pace Celebration again played host to more than 300 guests and was a wonderful way to show off our new campus to alumni, parents, and friends.

The Alumni Mentoring Program led by Dawn Rigney was expanded to the Pleasantville campus in the fall. A kick-off to the program took place on November 19. Currently, we have 26 students in their junior or senior year and 28 alumni participating in the Pleasantville program. The program continues to gain interest and grow rapidly. To learn more contact Dawn or visit the website at www.pace.edu/mentoring.

Construction activity continues to progress. Here is a status report:

- **Elm Hall** is on schedule to be complete this summer and will open for the fall 2016 semester. The building will house 230 upperclassmen, completing our move from Briarcliff and adding capacity to facilitate enrollment growth. Rooms will be suite style and the building will have study lounges on each floor, a faculty apartment, and classrooms on the first floor.

- **Ianniello Field House** is complete. We have received the certificate of occupancy for the building and the Athletics department has occupied the facility. Student athletes will have new facilities for the spring semester. The **softball field** will be completed by the end of January.

- **David J. Pecker Lecture Hall and Multi-Purpose** space is complete and will come online for the start of the spring 2016 semester. The lecture hall has the capacity to hold 120 students in fixed seating with the potential to increase capacity to 221 by adding folding chairs and a standing room area. Seating is tiered with two rows on each tier so students can work collaboratively. A mobile instructor podium and TV displays that can show single or multiple images have been installed in the classroom and there are outlets at each seat.

- **Miller Hall** received upgrades during the winter break as well. The video classroom in Miller (M16) was renovated and has new technology. The room was reconfigured to optimize the viewing capability of the space. Miller Lecture hall was converted to three individual classrooms. Two
classrooms will have the capacity to hold up to 42 students and one classroom will have the capacity for 30 – 35 students.

For further information and regular updates on the Site Plan or Pleasantville Project please visit our website http://www.pace.edu/westchester-master-plan or contact Aisha Moyla at amoyla@pace.edu.

Sincerely,

William J. McGrath
Sr. V.P. and Chief Operating Officer for Westchester Campuses