



ACADEMIC YEAR 2022-23  
ANNUAL REPORT FOR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Undergraduate Education

- The first year of the Cornerstone was very successful. We welcomed 70 students as part of our first class. An additional 11 students applied to join the program after they arrived in the fall, while 2 left to join the Honors Program and 1 left the university. This gave us a total of 78 students in the program and a 98.6% retention rate, noticeably higher than the university rate of 91%. Next year's cohort will include 92 students (31% growth).
- The Bridge program enrolled 45 students across 3 sections in less than 15 days after it went live. Every student who completed the course returned to the university (100% retention rate), and the course received universally good evaluations from students. The program has the support of Student Life and the Center for Academic and Career Success, and the School of Philosophy and Busch School have expressed interest in our work. This year we are scaling the program up to 10 sections (180 students) taught by a combination of faculty and staff. As part of this scaling up, we plan to partner with university communications to produce a series of videos to introduce students to the university.
- We worked with university communications and the admission office to further refine our approach to recruiting students. This included adjustments to our in-person events and communications strategies. Of particular note were new "drip" communication campaigns emphasizing student success on behalf of the Politics and Psychology Departments. We will expand these programs to include the Biology and Sociology (home of the Criminology major) departments in the coming year. **The outcome was a 12% increase in student deposits from last year as of May 1.**
- Our team took the lead in creating a new one-page degree audit for the university. The report is now available to faculty and students. We continue to work with departments, Tech Service, and Enrollment Support to refine the report.
- With the addition of Dr. Lilla Kopár as Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Programs, we have been able to expand our support of undergraduate advising. Among the projects we've engaged in are updating the undergraduate portion of the Arts and Sciences website, including the advising handbook, providing administrative support and training for multiple departments throughout the semester, and refining advising processes. As a

result of this work, I dismissed a record low number of students in May, and only two students missed their anticipated graduation date.

## **Advancement**

Two new board members: Rusty McGranahan and John Fisher

Maryrose McInerney and Jim Hays hosted a widening the circle event in NYC

Jason Gosselin and Michael Fortunato hosted a widening the circle event in Philly

In the spring, hosted the first BOV dinner, where BOV engaged with undergraduate and graduate students.

In the fall, the BOV met at and toured Lincoln's Cottage

Raised \$3.1M this year (Excluding planned gifts, 1.5% growth)

- Individuals & Alumni \$2.2M
- Corporations \$250K
- Foundations \$650K
- Parents \$45K

Additional \$1.6M was raised in Impact Scholarships. This isn't a total figure for the year. It's a multi-year award that goes towards our final campaign total of \$39M.

Ryan came on line as Leadership Annual Giving officer, this is a critical pipeline building role

Advancement team continues to grow. Coordinator should be coming online within the next few weeks and a new major gift officer has been approved.

## **Faculty**

We hired Bianca Adair (previously a Visiting Professor at the University of Texas at Austin) as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Politics to direct our Intelligence Studies program. We hired Sarah Gustafson (ABD in the Government program at Harvard) into Politics, to start in January 2024. And we hired Michael Promisel (previously an Assistant Professor at Coastal Carolina University) into the Politics department; in the first year of his appointment he will be at the Notre Dame Center for Citizenship and Constitutional Government.

Successfully petitioned the Provost's Office to permit reassignment of part-time instructional savings to faculty research and professional development funds to be used by each individual faculty member as they see fit. This resulted in approximately \$215,000 in funding for faculty research and professional development. We were able to reallocate these resources to support faculty research due to our work creating efficiencies in other areas of the School's budget.

We paid out over \$7,500 in research support grants from the December 2022 round of applications, with an additional approximately \$1,500 to be paid soon for upcoming research. Funding supported incentives for research participants, research equipment, and travel to conferences or other research-related travel.

We rolled out a **faculty evaluation process** in which faculty will evaluate each other and provide developmental feedback. Department chairs and Dean's office will check on these evaluations.

## Finance and Administration

We awarded over \$10,000 in funds to faculty and departments during the January round of Dean's Funding requests, and we granted another \$10,000 as additional Spend Authority for departments providing matching funds. Projects include purchasing equipment to support future departmental accreditation, funding to support student initiatives and experiential learning activities, and funding to host or attend conferences or lectures.

- In January and February, we hosted training sessions for faculty with accumulated PI indirect returns. The sessions were designed to provide training on running and interpreting org reports in Cardinal Financials so that faculty are equipped to access and deploy their available indirect returns in support of their ongoing research.
- Thanks to the diligence and hard work of our chairs and their teams, we collected and submitted FY24 budget requests for all fund types by the relevant deadlines. As a result of this, many budgets were loaded and available by the start of the next fiscal year, with all budgets completely loaded within 30 days of the start of the new fiscal year. Departments and faculty fund managers (e.g., PI's with accumulated indirects or start-up fund holders) now have greater visibility and access to their own budgets. This supports one of the objectives of our strategic plan is to delegate authority in key areas and empower decision makers at every level.
- Continued to engage within the Dean's Office team and ombudspeople on strategic plan for the School, including setting forth existing goals and objectives into a trackable framework. This will enable us to track progress on objectives and their metrics of success and better communicate these in a clearly digestible format to faculty and staff within our school and other relevant stakeholders.

## Graduate Education

- Successfully petitioned Provost's Office for tuition discounting sufficient to support 20 new doctoral student admits for Fall 2023. When paired with operating and donor funds identified by the Dean's Office, we were able to support four-year stipend packages for each of these student, with stipends for these students totaling approximately \$375,000 per year.
- Created dissertation impact scholarships which will support first year graduate students
- Implemented school-wide graduate orientation and department-level orientations fostered
- Improved specification of degree requirements, milestones, and timelines
- Implemented Graduate Student Advisory Committee
- Provided supports to students as they progressed through graduate school and into the workforce, including seminar on applying for academic positions
- Examined approaches for offering housing opportunities to graduate students
- Examined application rates over time and developed approaches for enhancing applications and enrollment
- Explored creation of interdisciplinary new programs, including Public Policy, Public Administration, Environmental Studies, Data Analytics
- Examined retention and graduation rates
- Supported successful of graduate degrees
  - PhD - 23 degrees
  - 5 Ph.D. students passed their oral defense "with distinction"

- Masters - 96 degree
- 375 active graduate students provided with support and coordination, in collaboration with respective faculty and departments
- Invited the Offices of Sponsored Accounting and Research to provide grant funding session for faculty and graduate students
- Reviewed about 200 research proposal and contract reviews
- Reviewed about 300 research appointments:
- Applications
  - 24 PhD matriculants, 54 graduate master program matriculants, 4 master/doctoral joint matriculants
  - Over 800 applications received and reviewed

### **Assessment and Program Review**

- Preliminary Dashboards resources rolled out to all A&S Department which will inform the Program Review Project work for next AY 2023-2024
- Enrollment Data and Review with Chairs provided to all A&S Departments to help with course scheduling/ PT budget management for Spring and Fall 2023.
- Resolved accreditation issues in Education ensuring all 2023 graduating seniors were eligible to apply for their teaching credentials with OSSE.
- Engaged in preliminary Program Review with the Education Department which will inform the work with all A&S departments in the upcoming academic year.