

End of the Semester | April 27, 2018

Dear Colleagues,

It has been an exciting few weeks as the semester wrapped up and there were so many opportunities to witness the success of our students! On Sunday, we will celebrate the achievements of the nearly 700 students graduating with their degree from our university.

As I attended the numerous events I was reminded each time of your work and commitment supporting students at UM-Flint. It was, by all accounts, another wonderful and productive academic year.

I want to thank faculty and staff for your continuing efforts upholding academic quality and high programmatic standards while completing your own research efforts. Together, you shape the caring and engaged culture that results in UM-Flint being a leader in higher education for our region.

We have much to celebrate and much to look forward to as we head into the summer months. As part of our continued commitment to excellent education and scholarship across the institution I share the following:

- While it's still too early to see trends with regard to enrollment for the fall semester, our latest data reflects good news regarding retention. This year's undergraduate FTIAC retention is 77%, up from 68% last year. In our largest unit, the College of Arts and Sciences, FTIAC retention has increased from 70% to 76%.
- We will break ground in the fall on our \$39 million Murchie Science Building expansion project that will add a new wing and more than 61,000 square feet to MSB that includes laboratories, classrooms, innovative student learning commons, and faculty space.
- Faculty recruitment continues to be a shining example of the power of our mission and the commitment of our intellectual resources to our community. The College and Schools have recruited over 50 new faculty during the past four years. During the 2017-18 academic year we had 326 full-time faculty, up 10 from the previous year, and 128 tenured faculty, up 9 from the previous

year. The data also show good progress through the ranks, and this year's tenure and promotion class continues that positive trend.

- We will be wrapping up our Victors for Michigan-Flint campaign at the end of the calendar year, a campaign that exceeded expectations and made an immediate impact on campus. The number of new donors giving to UM-Flint is up 24%, and so far the campaign has raised a total of over \$51 million, or 128% of the original goal. Our development team remains hard at work seeking additional student support and securing the last few dollars needed for our Murchie project.

Additionally, the current Strategic Planning efforts are a wonderful example of dedication, inclusion, rigor, and transparency in advancing our mission. With broad community input and endorsement from the governing faculty, Phase I provided us with our [five strategic priorities](#). The Phase II Core Team is currently working on an implementation plan that will include a set of strategic initiatives to help us realize the five high-level priorities. You'll be hearing more about this implementation in greater detail in the near future.

I also want to thank the Council of Deans for their Budget Town Hall presentation yesterday. The leadership they demonstrated through their united message is a strong statement of our collaborative culture at UM-Flint, as well as a visionary approach to achieving our strategic priorities.

Moving ahead with student success, academic excellence, and an engaged partnerships firmly at our core, together we are creating a truly bright future for our campus.

Thank you for your continued efforts, dedication, and service that make UM-Flint such a special place.

Go Blue!

Sue

Suan E. Borrego, Ph.D.
Chancellor
University of Michigan - Flint
221 University Pavilion
Flint, MI 48502
Tel: [810-762-3322](tel:810-762-3322)