

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Ms. Antoinette Bell was awarded a posthumous BSW degree at the end of winter term 2020 in accordance with university policy 2.43.62. The School of Social work shared this regarding Ms. Bell and her tenure with WSU SSW: Ms. Antoinette Bell was a 50 year old African American woman who was on track to graduate August 2020 with her BSW degree - she was entering her last semester with a 3.75 GPA. She completed an Associates of Arts degree from Macomb County CC in 2018 and then transferred to WSU to start her BSW degree. She was a part time student and worked full time with the Detroit Health Department as an Immunization Advocate. She lived in Warren, was single and although she not have any children, she did enjoy a close relationship with her many nephews and nieces. One of her nephews, Darius Knox, has been in touch and asks that I share the family's gratitude for the support shown by the WSU community. Mr. Knox stated that education was very important to Ms. Bell and the family feels some comfort knowing that her BSW degree will be conferred. As part of her BSW degree, Ms. Bell was also completing a community based internship with Mercy Education Project in Detroit; her agency based supervisor shares the following in her evaluation: "*Antoinette has the perfect disposition to work with our client population. She is calm, friendly, warm and presents in a non-judgmental manner.*" We commend Ms. Bell *in memoriam*, and hold her up as an example of Warrior spirit.

K-12 Summer Programs

Wayne K12 (WK12) will provide more than 50 virtual and at-home summer experiences for pre-college students during summer 2020. Through the fortitude and creativity of WK12 staff and coordinators, WSU will have offerings supporting elementary, middle, and high school students. Program offerings include STEM and liberal arts themed experiences. This summer's portfolio includes weeklong camps, virtual labs, a statewide STEAM challenge for high school students, and continued programming for our Upward Bound students. In order to provide students with necessary learn-at-home materials, as well as low-tech camp offerings, partnership conversations were created with MotorCity STEAM, Arts and Scraps, and Detroit Public Television. WK12 leadership is currently in conversation with Detroit Public Schools Community District and DPSCD Foundation to create targeted supports for Detroit public school students through our WK12 offerings this summer. Nearly 80% of summer WK12 offerings planned to date have been converted to "all access" programming and will be at no cost to participants. WK12 staff continues to plan for summer and expects additional program offerings and additional scholarships to be added to this summer's portfolio. Virtual summer program and registration information became available on May 1st at <http://k-12.wayne.edu/>, and will be updated as more offerings become available.

SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES HIGHLIGHTS

Fueled by a sense of service and urgency during this period of shelter-in-place, Leah Warren and Sara Elhasan wanted to help younger students from falling behind in school. The Wayne State University Irvin D. Reid Honors College undergraduates saw an opportunity to use some of their newfound available time to serve K-12 students who now find themselves schooling at home. Warren and Elhasan wondered if fellow classmates felt the same and floated the idea on social media. Almost immediately, they heard back from more than 60 who wanted to volunteer. Irvin D. Reid Honors College undergraduates Leah Warren (pictured) and Sara Elhasan created online forms for both college students who want to tutor and parents who want to schedule tutoring for their child. "It's hard enough to have to start

working at home, let alone make sure your child doesn't fall behind in their classes," said Warren, who is also a Wayne Med-Direct scholar. "Now that K-12 is suspended throughout the rest of the school year and everything is online, it is imperative that we help." Elhasan, who is a 2020 graduate of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, created online forms for both college students who want to tutor and parents who want to schedule tutoring for their child. "I feel really lucky to be able to help others in need during such unprecedented times," said Elhasan, who was in the ReBUILDetroit Scholars program as an undergraduate student. "Access to and cost of tutoring can often be a barrier to students from low socioeconomic families, so organizing this initiative has been very rewarding, and I'm excited to get feedback from parents to see how we can improve it moving forward." Sara Elhasan, who was in the ReBUILDetroit Scholars program as an undergraduate student, knows that access to and cost of tutoring can often be a barrier to students from low socioeconomic families. Parents can request tutoring in many subjects, including reading, writing, math, science, social studies/history, and foreign language. Sessions can be scheduled for up to one hour once or twice per week via FaceTime, Skype or Zoom. Tutors will work with materials and assignments provided to students by their teachers. "The creation of this program exemplifies the creative spirit and altruistic values of our Honors students," said Honors College Dean John Corvino. "Their leadership in finding a positive way to serve others during a time of crisis makes us all proud."

ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT (EM)

Kick Start College Program: Kick Start is a yield and student success initiative for incoming FTIAC students. The program offers one free summer course online. Students can select from courses that meet general education requirements and are designed by experts from faculty from the English and Communication departments with the help of the Office of Teaching and Learning. The program was announced on Monday, May 4 and in just three weeks 728 students have requested a course. Interested freshman are now being placed on a wait-list.

EM Cross Functional Yield Groups: In an effort to decrease summer melt and remain focused on freshman yield during the pandemic, EM developed ten cross functional yield groups to engage nearly 12,000 applicants. Each group has representatives from Office for Student Financial Aid, Undergraduate Admissions, and the Student Service Center that are charged with supporting applicant pools of approximately 1,100 students. Additional students are added to each group as new admissions offers are extended for fall 2020. Automation of this work is facilitated through a custom interface in Slate. While our division has a history of excellent collaboration, this is the first time we've formalized cross-functional groups across units to focus on yield. Regular reporting on outcomes is delivered weekly and all team leaders have an internal consultant assigned to help with continuous improvement. Since launch, nearly 5,500 students have been reviewed to completion and have either committed to attending WSU or indicated they won't be attending. Our team on average has made personal contact with 94% of prospective incoming students to date. We fully expect to make personal contact and consult centered around next steps with 100% of admitted students by June 1st. The completion of the student record review frees up valuable time that can be reallocated to students who need assistance with next steps and on-boarding. 11K individual interactions have taken place with prospective Warriors through phone calls, text messages, email and Google chat. Over 90% of FTIAC and transfer applicants have completed all financial aid requirements. In an effort to sustain connection and build relationships with students and families, our team will be coordinating a series of Warrior inspired virtual events as well.

W - Chat Bot: In collaboration with AdmitHub, EM completed a month-long outreach campaign during April to connect with undergraduate students via text message. W, an artificial intelligence powered chat bot, allows current students to engage in quick and simple text exchanges that support academic success. Students receive instant support responses that provide tips to stay engaged and focused. Answers assisted in informing university student success strategies on best ways to support current students. Campaigns included topics such as wellness, check-ins, study skills for finals and words of encouragement. Over 40K unique responses were received and 32% of students contacted in April sent at least one message to W – this is considered a very high response rate. Students were particularly responsive to opportunities to share how they are doing and express their opinions. Student feedback suggests that the bot was most helpful in fostering the sense that their input was valuable to Wayne State. EM's collaboration with the Dean of Students Office and the Academic Success Center ensured we were able to respond quickly to individual student needs, as well as create informed programming that based on direct feedback during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Wiser Warriors Yield and Orientation Peer Engagement Program: The Wiser Warriors program creates a personalized experience for all newly admitted WSU students by combining one-on-one and group engagement opportunities through instant messaging, message boards, and both live and pre-recorded video events. The Wiser Warriors program is divided into two current segments: Yield and Orientation.

The Yield program, led by EM, is designed to foster a deeper connection between prospective students and Wayne State University by leveraging peer and staff engagement while creating new avenues for prospective students to gather information that will help them make the decision to matriculate to WSU in fall 2020. More than 50 community tiles introduce students to Wayne State schools and colleges, offices, support programs, and affinity groups and provide admitted students with a direct line to staff and faculty with expertise in each area.

Virtual Orientation, led by Student Success, is a post-orientation engagement experience. Wiser Virtual Orientation connects admitted students to two student Orientation Leaders who engage students with assorted programming tailored for their needs for remainder of the summer.

Nearly 900 students are currently participating in the Wiser Warriors program. Planning is underway for new implementations for Student Success and Alumni Relations.

Update from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions is currently offering virtual appointments and telephone advising. We were also able to shift in-person recruitment events to virtual versions (listed below) and figured out ways to utilize new and existing tools to service students and families online. It is an important time for students who are deciding where they will attend college in the fall. Our response has been guided by our mission of access and equity. We have extended our decision deadline to allow students the space and time they need to make important decisions. We have offered a virtual tour option for a while now, so that has served nicely during this time.

- **WSU Decision Day Event on May 6:** UG hosted a Zoom event for admitted students to celebrate their admission to WSU.

- **DCAN Lunch & Learn on April 28:** UGA participated on College Admissions Panel for High School Seniors and Counselors from Detroit.
- **WSU Admitted Student Week events:** Via Zoom May 3- 7 (see Communications for details)
- **Virtual Admitted Student Events hosted by WSU OSFA and UGA**
- WSU hosted three **virtual College Fairs** on **May 5, 6, and 7** in collaboration with the 15 Public Universities in Michigan for more than 2,800 students.
- **Facebook Social Media Ad Campaign May 1 – July 1.** Ads promote virtual events, appointments and virtual campus tour.
- **Senior Connections College Roundtable May 14:** UGA is hosting a roundtable for seniors from DPSCD who have been admitted to WSU to help them with their college transition.

Our messaging has been strong and targeted to assist students and parents in making important decisions about college during such a challenging time. In addition to our many touch points during a regular yield period (Feb – June) – We have added parent communication, videos, contests and yield groups who are also communicating with incoming students. We are also ramping up our prospective student campaigns. We extended the scholarship deadline for transfer students to June 1.

CARES Funding: WSU has received \$9,653,092 from the US Department of Education to be used to provide emergency grants to students. The estimated number of students that can potentially request assistance from CARES funding is 14,167. Not all of these students will apply, however, this is the consideration that this is the number of students that could be eligibility for funding.

- Total number of students who have received a CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grant: 4,540
- Total amount of CARES Act Emergency Financial Aid Grants distributed to students: \$3,962,250

WSU Student Emergency Grant: This fund is available to students and offers limited emergency financial assistance to currently enrolled students who are unable to meet immediate, essential expenses because of temporary hardship related to an unexpected situation. International and DACA students that are not eligible for CARES funding will be considered for similar funding via the student emergency fund and or departmental emergency funds. In order to assist as many of our neediest students first we texted all zero EFC students as well as sent emails to over 4800 Pell recipients that met the criteria at that time. With our recent federal update, we have learned that the Department of Education updated their rules to include more students while also maintaining ineligibility for international and DACA students. A review will occur to determine which students that have been denied funding will now become eligible.

SSC Express: The Student Service Center will be hosting a weekly SSC Express program open to the WSU community starting on Friday, May 29th from 11am-12pm. This program will feature a campus literacy/important dates to know presentation and also have time for participants to ask questions. By registering in advance, we will be able to look over their student account and individually contact them if they need extra help prior to the program date. We are working with specific groups on campus by arranging dedicated dates to streamline support. These groups include Warrior VIP, APEX Scholars and LAS as returning units and Med Direct as a first time participant.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

Transfer Student Success Center (TSSC)

- On behalf of the university, the TSSC is finalizing new articulation agreements with Washtenaw Community College and Monroe Community College for the recently approved bachelor's programs in welding and metallurgical engineering technology.
- In collaboration with Jackson College and Henry Ford College, the TSSC has created webinars to help students learn more about the transfer process to ensure a smooth transition between our institutions.
- More than 200 Virtual Transfer Success Appointments have been held in the first eight weeks of the online program's creation.

Office of International Programs (OIP)

- Wayne State has been selected by the Fulbright Program to host virtual Orientation for **ALL** 2,000 foreign Fulbright awardees coming to the U.S. for the 2020-21 academic year. This was the third year WSU had been selected to host in-person Orientation for awardees, which was planned for August. When the pandemic made clear that in-person Orientation could not be held, Fulbright asked eight institutions across the nation to propose virtual training for the entire program, and Wayne State's proposal was selected. We will offer a combination of asynchronous and synchronous sessions using our learning platform, Canvas. The Office of International Programs oversees this program, and will work with Executive and Professional Development as well as various departments and staff across campus to develop and execute this plan. Sessions will be held in August and December.
- Several new efforts are underway to recruit international students to Wayne State.
 - OIP is working closely with partners at EducationUSA, a U.S. Department of State network of more than 425 international student advising centers in 175 countries, on webinars for prospective Turkish FTIAC students. Colleagues in the Office of International Students and Scholars (OISS) and the College of Engineering have assisted with two seminars so far that have reached about 40 students.
 - Webinars for prospective and admitted Indian students have drawn participation from about 100 students. OIP is working closely with the Office of Graduate Admissions, OISS, Engineering and our India-based recruitment advisor to ensure that all students are supported through this time and that those who have been admitted to WSU will enroll for the upcoming academic year. The second-largest number of international students at WSU come from India (the largest number come from Canada).
 - The English Language Institute opened an additional section of a free TOEFL-prep (Test of English as a Foreign Language) class to accommodate students both locally and remotely from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Mongolia, and Pakistan.
- Planning and recruitment for the first year of the Global Living Learning Community is underway. 18 domestic students and 18 international students will be paired together for an immersive residential experience to promote cultural exchange and understanding.

Executive and Professional Development (EPD)

- As part of PTACs of Michigan, published the “COVID-19 Playbook” to assist Michigan-based small businesses dealing with the pandemic. PTAC – the Procurement Technical Assistance Center within EPD – helps small businesses learn how to obtain contracts in the public sector, particularly with the Department of Defense. The playbook includes details on finding business opportunities in the government marketplace and navigating through the various loan programs and support resources available from the federal government.
- EPD redesigned its Wayne County Leadership Development Program into a hybrid format and is developing eight new workshops for the UAW Chrysler EAP Recertification Program.

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT AND FACULTY SUCCESS

Weekly Department Chair Coffee Hours

Starting in March, Associate Provosts Annmarie Caño and Boris Baltes began hosting weekly coffee hours with department chairs to support their work at the local level in assisting faculty, staff, and students. Weekly guests from the Provost's Office provide timely and pertinent information to department chairs so they can make good decisions to manage their fiscal and human resources. Topics have include remote instruction, grading, safety and health, financial aid and student support, international programs and students, and budgeting. Attendance at each session has ranged from 20-30 department chairs.

Seminars on Virtual Networking

Associate Provost Caño added 3 seminars to the slate of professional development offerings to assist faculty and staff collaborations and networking to promote their own and their students' success. Now that many faculty are not able to attend in-person conferences to share research and scholarly ideas and find collaborators to advance their research agenda, virtual solutions are necessary. One of these seminars featured Provost Whitfield, in which we discussed how to translate in-person networking strategies to the virtual environment. The other two were led by Dr. Jennifer Hart in the department of history, with specific focus on using Twitter to network, collaborate, and celebrate successes.

Academic Recognition Week

Due to COVID-19, the annual Academic Recognition Ceremony to celebrate faculty, staff, and graduate student awards was not held. Yet we found it was still important to celebrate the hard work of our valued people. We hosted a virtual celebration May 4-8, 2020. Daily emails celebrated President's, Provost's, BOG, and Graduate School award winners (see [this email](#) for example). In addition, daily tweets using the hashtag #WSUARW2020 celebrated individual winners over the course of each day. Twitter analytics show a 197% increase in Tweet impressions over the prior month, indicating that the tweets were effective in reaching a large audience.

OFFICE OF TEACHING AND LEARNING

Teach Anywhere Initiative - to support faculty in making decisions and taking action to transition their courses to online or remote formats as smoothly as possible. We designed a new website, support resources, and webinars on pedagogy and technology to support faculty as they moved to emergency remote education. In total over the course of three weeks, we facilitated 86 webinars where 23 of those completely new webinars added to meet the current needs of the university. We had 1311 registrants and identified 427 of those as new to the OTL. As follow-up to the webinars, 18 guides on both technology and pedagogy online courses design strategies were created.

Strategy to Meet Campus Needs - Ask for Faculty Volunteers

One strategy that we used to meet the demanding needs of campus to move courses to remote was to put out a call to all faculty who have taught online and ask for help. We were honored and overwhelmed that over 50 faculty took us up on this offer and volunteered to assist colleagues with the transition through sharing experiences in webinars, meet with peers to discuss strategies, opening their online classes for others to view and facilitating discussions across campus about remote teaching.

After TeachAnywhere – Design Sprint – as a follow-up to TeachAnywhere, OTL wanted to build a new experience with resources to help faculty move from “hurry up and get your class online” to “how might I reflect and use the information I learned during my remote experience to build a well-designed online course”. This was a 10-day intensive course to prepare faculty for Spring/Summer semester with an overall goal of providing as many access points to faculty as possible to the information, so that they could pick and choose what they wanted and participate as little or as much they needed. We had 30 total sessions for the Design Sprint that included an introduction, 6 daily webinars on relevant topics and 3-topic specific panels to well-designed online learning. We had 198 faculty register for the canvas course of those 126 were completely new to the OTL.