

May 26, 2022

Dear Scranton Community:

As we approach the end of the academic year, we want to communicate some exciting progress on creating a more inclusive campus for our students, faculty and staff. As we enter the summer break, diversity, equity and inclusion work will continue, with the goal of making our incoming class feel welcome and part of the community, and to work with our returning students, faculty and staff to continue to move this work forward.

Concentration. The initial work on course development has begun and the concentration will go through the curricular process in Fall 2022.

The Multicultural Center and United Cultures Organization sponsored the 13th Annual Festival of Nations, which featured tables from 21 different countries. Country table participants shared their culture through food, informational poster boards, and interactive activities.

Faculty Development Subcommittee

The subcommittee continues to plan a day of faculty development on Friday, September 23, 2022.

speakers, workshops and trainings on a variety of topics, and will afford faculty the opportunity to select from eight sessions on different topics. A complete schedule will be shared in August, but we suggest that faculty mark their calendars now for this important event.

Sondra and Morey Myers Fellowship – Roosevelt Montás

On February 10th, the Sondra and Morey Myers Distinguished Visiting Fellowship featured Dr. Roosevelt Montás. Dr. Montás spent two days on campus that included a public lecture, faculty meetings and meetings with first generation students. Dr. Montás is Senior Lecturer in American Studies and English at Columbia University. He was Director of the Center for the Core Curriculum at Columbia College from 2008 to 2018.

Scranton's Story, Our Nation's Story

The NEH- around Indigenous History, including a [Hope Horn gallery exhibit](#) and two humanities talks that bring attention to the original inhabitants of Eastern PA and the broader nation. More information can be found [here](#) with additional events during Native American history month to come in November 2022. Fall project themes will include a focus on past immigration, during the coal-mining era, and more recent immigration, including from across Latin American nations as well as global refugees, highlighting the diversity of NEPA today.

Prison Education Initiative

Northeastern Pennsylvania in 2020. This year the program will add a second cohort of 15 students who may be awarded an Associates of Art Degree in approximately two and a half to three years.

Certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The Kania School established the *Dean's Certificate in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*, which is awarded to graduating seniors who have completed 12 credits of courses with significant DEI emphasis and who submit a 500-word summary of what they have learned about DEI at the University. The program emphasizes the importance of DEI to Kania School students, and seven students received this certificate this Spring.

Donning of the Stole

The Stole Ceremony started a couple of years ago with seven graduates. This year, the Multi-Cultural Center ho celebrates the personal and academic achievements of students of color.

Diversity, equity and inclusion work will continue through the summer as the University continues to implement the goals of the new Strategic Plan. Given the complexity of this work, it will take continued effort and determination by every member of the University community. Our commitment to making the University of Scranton a home to everyone that is a member of our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Gingerich, Ph.D.
Provost & Sr. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Elizabeth M. Garcia, Esq.
Special Assistant to the President,
Executive Director for the Office of
Equity and Diversity, and Title IX Coordinator