

## FS update 8.3.20

Alfred, Marcus <marAlfred@Howard.edu>

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To: Alfred, Marcus <marAlfred@Howard.edu>

Good morning Colleagues,

Just an brief update on (1) faculty successes, (2) building maintenance concerns for the fall opening during covid, (3) the overall current Fall 2020 opening plan, (4) the Faculty Grievance Commission (FGC), and (5) HU's mission.

As a reminder, all updates and the senate discussion forum may be found here:

<https://hufaculty.com>

### **Faculty Success**

Congratulations to Professor Priscilla Okunji on her new book!

Title : Nursing Informatics: Connecting Technology and Patient Care 1st Edition

Summary: The text prepares students to enter a healthcare system brimming with technology. The text introduces students to the complex and critical world of health informatics and provides them with the necessary tools and knowledge to develop measurable goals in data management through health technologies.

### **Building maintenance**

One of our colleagues asked if the administration is taking the health of students, staff, and faculty seriously. Our colleague asked this after they pointed out the following information.

The administration and board have issued a Building Management Reactivation Checklist 6. It may be found here:

<https://hufaculty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/270.2020-BMRA-Checklist.pdf>

According to Dr. Dubroy, it's supposed to be "used as a guide for building managers to determine their building's needs". Our colleagues pointed out that it is remarkably similar to a food-safety checklist from the FDA. The FDA document was designed as a checklist for re-opening retail food establishments during the COVID-19 pandemic. It may be found here:

<https://www.fda.gov/food/food-safety-during-emergencies/best-practices-re-opening-retail-food-establishments-during-covid-19-pandemic>

I've asked the administration about this and mentioned some of the concerns expressed by you all. Here is the email chain:

<https://hufaculty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/269.NONSen3HU-building-checklist-3.pdf>

The senate needs your input on this. Does this increase your confidence in the administration and board's ability to protect students, staff, and faculty during the COVID disaster and a Fall 2020 semester reopening? Please make your voice hear in the forum and let your senate council representative know.

### **Fall 2020 opening plan during COVID?**

It appears that the current opening plan has about 2800 students scheduled to stay on campus for this fall according to Dr. Frederick's email on 8/1/20. The senate needs your input on the current plan and what we should recommend? Please make your voice heard in the forum and let your council representative know.

## **FGC**

Just to summarize, Dr. Wutoh's 2019 Faculty Handbook mandates training for the Faculty Grievance Commission (FGC). As a reminder, the FGC has authority over grievable matters detailed in chapter F of the 2019 Handbook. For over a year grievances filed by faculty have not been addressed by the commission. Why?

(a) The 2019 Faculty Handbook mandates that HU schools and colleges elect FGC representatives. This election process is different from what is required 1993 handbook. These elections were declared by Dr. Wutoh to be complete only in February 2020.

(b) The 2019 Faculty Handbook mandates training for the FGC and FGC hearing panelists. Dr. Wutoh and the administration refused to pay for this board required training. It was only June 2020 when Dr. Wutoh and the administration finally agreed to pay for any training. Once they agreed to pay, the senate submitted a budget.

Currently, it appears Dr. Wutoh is violating board approved authority by not funding the senate's FGC training program. This further delays the FGC from beginning their work and deprives Howard University full time faculty of reasonable due process.

For transparency, here is an email chain between myself, the FGC, and Dr. Wutoh.

<https://hufaculty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/271.DrWutohFGCargument2.pdf>

## **Mission**

I've reminded the new Chair of the HU Board of Trustees and the Administration of the ongoing problem of retaining good faculty, and in particular African American faculty. Dr. Talitha Washington has left Howard. She was the only tenured African American woman professor in the math department at Howard. Please see the email correspondence here:

<https://hufaculty.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/272.NONSenTMW.pdf>

I wish you all the best. Please stay safe.

Marcus

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