

# WAGNER COLLEGE

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## OFFICE OF THE PROVOST

August 2020

Dear Colleagues:

As we prepare to return to the campus, I hope this finds you and your families safe and well. This letter provides updates on Academic Affairs activities, as well as information that will be useful to you in preparing your course syllabi for the coming semester.

### **Promotion and Tenure**

I am very pleased to share the following achievements of our colleagues. At the May 2020 meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following faculty members were approved for tenure and/or promotion:

**Jonathan Blaize, Ph.D. (Department of Biological Sciences):**

Dr. Blaize was approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Professor Theresa McCarthy (Performing Arts Department):**

Professor McCarthy was approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Arunkumar Sharma, Ph.D. (Department of Physical Sciences):**

Dr. Sharma was approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Aleksandra Zagorin, DNP (Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing):**

Dr. Zagorin was approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Celeste Gagnon, Ph.D. (Department of Culture and Economy):**

Dr. Gagnon was approved for promotion to Professor.

**Lauri Young, D.M.A. (Department of Performing Arts):**

Dr. Young was approved for promotion to Professor.

Congratulations to our colleagues on their milestone achievements!

### **New Faculty**

In a few weeks, we will welcome the Class of 2024 and the following new faculty members:

Dr. Jessica England, Psychology Department

Full-Time Tenure Track Assistant Professor

Professor Sidney Obas, Physician Assistant Program

Full-Time Clinical Coordinator

Dr. Carolyn Taverner, Psychology Department

Full-Time Visiting Assistant Professor

A brief biography of our new faculty can be found under the heading “New Faculty 2020 – 2021” on the Provost Office website (<http://wagner.edu/academics/provost/>).

I hope that you will welcome your new colleagues and show them the Wagner spirit that so characterizes our community.

I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge our colleagues who have left the College since the end of the Spring semester.

*Dr. Peg Horan, Professor, Nicolais School of Business:*

Dr. Horan delayed her retirement for a year to continue teaching our Accounting undergraduate and graduate students. I know that our students appreciated that she put Wagner and our students first, especially during what turned out to be an incredibly challenging year.

*Dr. Anne Schotter, Professor, English Department:*

Dr. Schotter retired this past year after a long and distinguished career at Wagner. She was the founding director of our Honors Program, served as a department chair and associate dean, and played a significant role over the years as a member of a number of committees that are part of our system of shared governance.

*Dr. Steve Jenkins, Associate Professor, Psychology Department:*

Dr. Jenkins has left the College after 15 years. Steve’s psychology students were fortunate to have experienced a faculty member who genuinely cared about their education.

*Dr. Geoffrey Mills, Interim Dean, Nicolais School of Business:*

Dr. Mills completed two years as interim Dean of the Nicolais School of Business. He was an able administrator who was always of good cheer.

We shall miss them but we will never forget them.

## **Last Words**

Thank you for all that you do to make Wagner College such a special place for our students.

During the last few months, you have continued to offer our students the best possible educational experience under challenging circumstances. I thank you for your extraordinary efforts. Our students are transformed by the intellectual experiences that they receive both in and out of the classroom (whether face-to-face or virtual), and none of this would be possible without your dedication to the endeavor.

I hope you all return refreshed and ready to have a great year!

Sincerely,



Jeffrey Kraus, Ph.D.  
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs