COLA Weekly

April 10, 2020

This was the week that we set out on the gargantuan task of calling all of our undergraduate students to check in, direct them toward resources, and remind them that they are part of the Wright State family. As a university we made over 8,500 calls, which is enormously impressive. As always, COLA stepped up with more than 30 volunteers. I'm so proud to be the dean of such a caring college!

When I made my calls I was pleased to hear from students that their remote instruction was going well. Some had some technical glitches but were able to resolve them. All that I spoke to said faculty had been responsive and helpful. One student had a grandparent in the hospital with the virus, but remained upbeat and was keeping on top of classes. Without exception the students were appreciative of the outreach.

We all know that Wright State, and especially COLA, is filled with caring instructors who go the extra mile for their students. Every university makes that claim. Now we have some clear evidence that in our case it's true, and we have communicated that to students. I can't help but think it will bear fruit in the long run.

This week also saw the inauguration of the Faculty Senate's SiP initiative. SiP stands for Shelter in Place. On alternating Thursdays (4:00pm) and Fridays (3:00pm) faculty members from across the university will address topics of interest. SiP is structured as 1 hour sessions in a publicly available Webex site. Participants during the live session will be able to submit questions; the presentations will be recorded and stored on the WSU streaming site. Please join in and encourage students and colleagues to do so as well. The next talk will be on Friday, April 17 at 3 and will be given by our own Lee Hannah from SPIA. Lee will talk about "How will COVID-19 Impact the 2020 Election?"

Be well everyone, and don't forget those masks when you go out in public!

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