



University of Colorado
Colorado Springs

September 2016

Hi Everyone,

Welcome back to another year!!

Since I promised to work on a few items over the summer, I have some updates for you.

1. **Commencement.** Since the survey we conducted last semester indicated that about half of the faculty prefer the stage and half prefer the floor, some kind of compromise was certainly in order. As promised, I met with Andrea and we reviewed all the survey comments and suggestions. Andrea had investigated simply extending the stage forward as is to accommodate faculty seating, and while possible, this would not address the issue that faculty who prefer the floor felt that they could not congratulate their students.

We reviewed stage diagrams and flow patterns and came up with a compromise to try out this fall. The stage will be lowered and faculty will be moved up front and seated on both side of a central aisle and facing that aisle. Students will go down that central aisle before separating to return to their seats. Faculty will be set apart from the students in the stage area, but will still be in a position to stand and greet their students as they return to their seats.

I hope that those who have not been attending commencement since we moved to the floor will come and try out this new idea!

2. **Research misconduct policy.** I provided Kelli with the list of faculty concerns we received and told her that the plan was to provide an item by item response as to how each is being addressed. Kelli worked through everything first, then Jennifer George worked with System counsel Pat O'Rourke on the legal issues. Barbara and I will be meeting with Kelli and Jennifer in the next few weeks to review everything and then we will meet with Faculty Executive Council, before it goes to EPUS. We intend to take as much time as is needed to ensure that faculty concerns are considered and addressed. As we move forward, you will be kept informed of our progress.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns!

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