

TO: Faculty and Staff  
FROM: Marty Wyngaarden Krauss  
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
RE: Announcements  
DATE: September 30, 2005

I hope everyone had a productive summer and opportunities for rest and relaxation. As we start the 2005-2006 Academic Year, there are a variety of updates and previews of important initiatives on which to report.

#### Re-accreditation Update

As you know, the University will be reviewed for re-accreditation by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) in the fall, 2006. Dr. John Sexton, President of New York University, is the chairperson of the NEASC re-accreditation committee. Executive Vice-President Peter French and I are co-chairs of the University's executive committee for re-accreditation. A self-study, addressing the full scope of the University's programs and operations, was started in January, 2005 with the formation of 14 committees of faculty and staff (see <http://www.brandeis.edu/NEASC> for more information). During the fall '05 semester, substantial progress on the analysis and writing of the self-study must be made. I urge you to inform yourself about this university-wide effort and to participate in its preparation and/or review. The self-study document must be submitted to NEASC in the summer, 2006.

#### Heller School Dean Search Update

Please join me in thanking Dean Jack Shonkoff for his eleven years of exemplary leadership of the Heller School, as he now enters a sabbatical year as a member of the Heller faculty. A reception to honor Jack's accomplishments as Dean will be held in the Faculty Club on October 20, to which you are all invited. Professor Stuart Altman has graciously assumed the position of Interim Dean of the Heller School.

The Heller School Dean Search Committee has identified several exceptionally qualified candidates for the position, who will be visiting the campus this fall. I look forward to making an announcement about the outcome of this national search as soon as the process is completed.

#### Rose Art Museum Director Search Update

The search committee for the Director of the Rose Art Museum has sent its recommendations regarding the next Director to me. I hope to make an announcement about this position shortly.

#### Three Professors Given Named Chairs

I am delighted to announce that Professor Robert Moody has been named as the Blanche, Barbara and Irving Laurie Chair in Theater Arts. Professor Richard Gaskins has been named the Proskauer Chair in Law and Social Welfare. And, Professor Palle Yourgrau has been named the Harry A. Wolfson Chair in Philosophy. In celebration of their

accomplishments, each will give a talk during the academic year, to which you are all invited. Details about the dates and location will be announced later. Please join me in congratulating these esteemed professors for this well deserved honor.

#### Information on New Faculty

In AY 2004-2005, there were 29 full-time faculty searches, resulting in 17 new appointments. Seventy-one percent of the new hires were for tenure and tenure-track positions, 17 percent for contract positions, and 12 percent for Kay Fellows (formerly Mellon fellows). Fifty-three percent of the new hires are women. One of the new hires is African-American, six are international. A list and brief profiles of our new faculty are available on my website (<http://www.brandeis.edu/provost>).

#### Task Force on the Tenure Clock

After consultation with the Faculty Senate, I have appointed a Task Force on the Tenure Clock to review and make recommendations to me about whether changes in the time to tenure are warranted, on the impact of Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) leaves on the tenure clock, and on whether different policies regarding the tenure clock are advisable for the different Schools of the university. The Task Force is chaired by Professor Michael Rosbash (BIO), and its members include Professors Rachel McCulloch (ECON/IBS), Jacqueline Jones (HIST), Tzvi Abusch (NEJS), and Marion Smiley (PHIL). The charge for this committee will be available on my website shortly.

#### Assistant Provost Position Filled

Dr. Richard Silberman has been hired as an Assistant Provost, effective October 3, 2005. His responsibilities include acting as a liaison from my office to the Faculty Senate, and supporting standing faculty committees and ad hoc committees, including the Task Force on the Tenure Clock. He will also be responsible for collaborating with the faculty to develop a framework for the assessment of student learning outcomes—a key issue in the NEASC re-accreditation effort. He has a Ph.D. in philosophy from Boston University. Please welcome him as a member of the provost's office.

#### Rabb School Division Name Change

The Division of Continuing Studies within the Rabb School of Continuing Studies has changed its name to the Division of Graduate Professional Studies to reflect more accurately its mission of offering graduate degrees and graduate certificates to working professionals.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next faculty meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup> and at the reception and dinner immediately following at the Faculty Club in honor of William Friedman's ('65) and his wife's \$5 million gift to the university given to establish the Theodore and Jane Norman Fund to support faculty research grants, faculty leaves/sabbaticals, and fellowships. All the faculty are invited to attend.