

January 14, 2019

Hello HW Family,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! I hope you had a relaxing and fun-filled break with family and friends. I'm excited to start the spring semester. There is much to look forward to in the coming months. Here are a few things I'm excited about and want to share with you:

**Student Shared Governance Meetings**

Last fall the Student Government Association (SGA), in collaboration with the President's Office, launched a Student Shared Governance Meeting structure that brings both SGA leadership and the President's Office leadership team together on a monthly basis. These meetings are open to the student body, as well as faculty and staff. Topics of discussion are chosen by the SGA President, in collaboration with the student body, and the HW President. We look forward to continuing these meetings this semester and I encourage students to attend. Dates for the meetings will be forthcoming.

**Faculty and Staff Shared Governance Meetings**

The college also held monthly shared governance meetings in collaboration with Faculty Council and the President's Office. These meetings are open to students, faculty and staff – all are encouraged to attend. Some of the topics we will discuss this semester include: *Multiple-Measures on Placement Scores, Quality and the Future of Online Learning, The Capital Campaign: Redesigning Space at HW*, and other topics.

**Embarking on a Capital Campaign for College Improvements**

This semester HW seeks approval for an architect to help redesign and upgrade some of the spaces on our campus. We plan to engage students, faculty and staff in the process once the college receives approval from the Board.

**Vice President of Academic & Student Affairs Search**

We are in the midst of conducting a candidate search for the Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs. My goal is to include the voices of faculty, staff and students in the search process this spring semester. Please be on the lookout for ways to get involved. We will send another communication on this topic in the coming weeks.

**Launching our HW Alumni Association Chapter**

In the last year, several students have wanted to help engage the college in creating an HW Alumni Association. I am happy to say that in collaboration with the District Office the college will launch its Chapter this spring semester. Stay tuned for details on how to enroll in the Chapter.

As we enter this new semester, I want you to know that HW is here to help – we have learned that when students actively seek out support from their College Advisor, the Wellness Center, and Faculty, they are more likely to succeed. I have also learned that when faculty are actively seeking to support students,



especially during the first couple weeks of class, students are more likely to succeed. Let's be there for each other, we're family.

Finally, let's keep the success going at HW! One of the things I'm so proud of is that hundreds of students continue to transfer to a University, or land great career opportunities, after completing with us. This semester will be no different! I'm rooting for all of YOU! If you're a student who is ready to transfer or finish your studies this semester, please take advantage of the Transfer Center or the Career Center (both on the 11<sup>th</sup> floor) to help you through that process.

We hope to keep this positive momentum going this spring semester. I encourage all students to get involved, raise their voices, and continue to support each other at Harold Washington College.

Have a great semester!

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