

- **Announcement calling for applications for the new Director of General Education position** – was released on March 8th by Senate President Schepige. Deadline for submissions is March 23rd.
- **Final exams or final meeting during finals week** – just a reminder that the CBA (Article 7, Sec 8) stipulates that faculty do hold class during the regularly scheduled finals period. Also, exams during dead week are regular exams, not final exams. To be excused from holding class during finals week, the faculty member must gain approval from the division chair and dean.
- **Academic Affairs Plan for support of University Strategic Plan** – The plan overview is in the docket materials. This draft arises from collating/consolidating action items that were discussed at last fall's President's retreat and further discussions held by the University Council. I wish to solicit faculty input on this plan.

In order to operationalize such a plan a more explicit task-specific/responsible parties compilation of tactical strategies is being drafted.

In spring term I will host several town-hall meetings where the full plan can be discussed and input collected.

- **Closing Comment** – Congratulations to a great season for our men's basketball team. I appreciate the strong faculty commitment to ensuring that the "student" part of the student athlete is in good form. I also wish to recognize the critical emphasis the athletic administrative team places on the concept of "student" in their athletic programs.

On the opposite side of campus, I also wish to mention appreciation to the creative arts team, under Professor Sharon Oberst's direction for a fun musical this term.... and encourage all to drop in to one or more of the many student musical performances on-going tonight through Saturday (check WOU homepage calendar for events).