Provost’s Report

Reaccreditation (WSCUC Senior College and University Commission)
On April 30th, the WSCUC Steering Committee and President Virjee participated in the off-site review with the WSCUC review team. This was a video conference that involved the WSCUC reviewers giving us a preliminary response to our report. The review team commended us on several areas and presented us with four lines of inquiry. We will receive a written summary report that contains the commendations and the specific questions they will ask us under each of these four lines of inquiry. We will distribute this list widely and work campus wide to determine the answers to the questions. The summary report will also let us know the people and groups with whom the review team wants to meet. I will be updating you all often.

Strategic Plan
We continue to move forward and build out the 2018–2023 Strategic Plan, recently submitting year one third quarter progress reports to the president. One of our newest objectives “Assess, adjust, and enhance the effectiveness of current programs to support faculty teaching, scholarly and creative activities, and service” is in its early stages of development. Marie Johnson, Dean of the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and I will be working with Chris Liu, Associate Vice President for Research and Sponsored Projects, and Kristin Stang, Assistant Vice President for Faculty Support Services, to assess current programming and to obtain input from faculty.

CSU Student Success Network Middle Leadership Academy
On May 2 – 4, I joined our Student Success Network Middle Leadership Academy team at a workshop on equity. This network consists of an independent community of practice for faculty, staff, and administrators in the CSU system, working together to share promising strategies related to student success. This particular workshop was a time to connect with colleagues from ten other CSU campuses working on student success with an equity lens. Speaker Veronica Keiffer-Lewis directed our work in creating a theoretical framework for equity – as an articulation of what we believe. We continue to discuss evidence-based solutions for closing the equity gap, and we are working with groups of educators on our campus to implement some best practices.

Spring 2019 Assessment Conference
On May 2nd I had the pleasure of attending the 5th Annual Assessment Forum. The ninety faculty and staff in attendance engaged across disciplines, learned from each other’s experiences, and shared best practices. Assessment is no longer something we have to do, it is who we are and what we do. This progress is due to the hard work of faculty and staff, and on behalf of the university, I want to say thank you.