

SCS TODAY: August 5, 2020

[A late-day M-W-F update from the SCS Dean's Office]

I'm proud of the resilience of everyone in SCS, as demonstrated daily during the past several months. In fact, everyone's extra efforts helped SCS end fiscal year 2020 in a healthy financial position.

All of us have discovered that we are on new and unfamiliar paths – and it's certainly difficult without a roadmap. But we've made a lot of progress in adapting to remote operations and keeping all education and research efforts on track. We also found many ways to reduce expenses during unexpected and challenging times. Unfortunately, though, we still need to do more as we prepare for the fall semester

Today, after much planning with several SCS leaders I'm glad to have as colleagues and advisors, I took some necessary personnel-related actions in SCS's central operating organization (Dean's Office and Computing Facilities). This included nine position eliminations and one furlough. Why? There are two reasons.

First, uncertainty remains a large part of our planning for the upcoming fall and spring semesters. Taking certain actions now is a good-faith effort to circumvent potentially challenging financial situations that are likely to come about later. Secondly, while departments in SCS have more diverse funding sources, the central operating organization in SCS does not, relying chiefly on revenue from student enrollment.

This is difficult news to share, I admit, but I feel strongly that taking action now rather than taking a "wait and see" approach is a better strategy to be sure that our planned expenses align with the resources we expect to be available in this academic year and beyond. And these actions will help SCS remain in a healthy financial position, emerging strong once the pandemic is behind us.

I will share more information and details with you during this virtual meeting tomorrow:

Town Hall meeting for SCS Faculty and Staff – focused on financial planning for the new fiscal year – tomorrow, August 6, at 1 p.m.

[Zoom details are in the original SCS TODAY email.](#)

Please join me.

Sincerely,
----- Martial

Connect with a [Dean's Advisory Committee](#) if you have questions or concerns you want to share.

REMEMBER YOUR RESOURCES

CMU Coronavirus [Updates & Information](#) and [FAQ](#) | CMU [Health Services](#), 412-268-2157
[SCS Alerts & Resources](#) | [For Students](#) | [For Staff](#) | [For Faculty](#) | [For Researchers](#)
