### Summary – December 3, 2020

 Announcements

* Nov 23-27: Fall Break
* Dec 3: Teaching Excellence Symposium virtual event, 9am-1pm. More information at <https://ctl.humboldt.edu/content/teaching-excellence-symposium-fall-2020>.
* Dec 8: Polytechnic self-study information session, 11 am-12 pm. Contact Lauren Lynch for virtual meeting link.
* Dec 9: Polytechnic self-study information session, 1-2 pm. Contact Lauren Lynch for virtual meeting link.
* Dec 11: Fall instruction ends
* Dec 14-18: Final Examination Period
* Dec. 17: 2 – 4 PM, Toast of the Holidays (Pending)
* Dec 22: Fall 2020 Grades Due
* January 11: Council of Chairs retreat (ZOOM) 8:30 – 10:00; 10:30 – 12:00.
* January 13: Spring 2021 College Welcome via Zoom 10:30 – 12:00.

## Budget Reduction discussion

Dale Oliver shared that he has received helpful budget reduction feedback and is expected have a draft plan soon. The result of budget reductions will result in reduced staff and course offerings (WTUs). Although transfer students are still registering for the spring 2021 semester, the college still needs to consolidate some course offerings. Dale asked department chairs to prepare a listing of low enrolled courses complete with a brief justification that he can share with OAA. Dale will communicate changes no later than the first day of finals week.

## Polytechnic designation discussion

The new polytechnic designation could offer new opportunities such as corporate sponsorships and new agency partnerships who seek our students for employment opportunities. This new designation is in the discussion phase at this point with an ample amount of time to work through the details. Dale Oliver shared that Provost Capps will direct conversations over the next two months and a self-study will begin in January 2021. Pursuing this status may allow us leniency in regards to declining enrollment as we move towards becoming a polytechnic. As part of an earlier study by select faculty in the college, the committee studying this opportunity was asked to examine a set of criteria and make suggested edits. The document received from the Chancellor’s Office provided an outline of what a polytechnic is, so the committee responded with an analysis of how HSU could fit into this category. HSU has programs that fit this designation (hands on learning, fieldwork), but the college and university will need to expand options that connect with the needs of our community (healthcare, engineering, biotech, computer science, etc.) This designation offers opportunities for programs to think about ways they can grow and how we can distinguish ourselves from other polytechnic institutions. Humboldt values sustainability, equity, inclusion and science that is forward thinking. There is some expectation that funding resources for this venture is dependent on increased enrollment but transitional funding for this new designation may become available. The timeline for the polytechnic designation is 2023, moving to a functioning polytechnic in 2026 with the full transition complete by 2029. The URPC is exploring a budget model that supports where students are being drawn. Discussion ensued with many in agreement that transitional/advanced funding would be vital to support critical infrastructure improvements for the new designation, increased professional development opportunities for faculty, a dedicated philanthropy advisor in the college for focused fundraising and a role for all faculty to help in building an institution that offers diverse programming.

## COVID-19 protocols

Dale Oliver reiterated the importance of remaining vigilant on following health and safety protocols to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Not following appropriate protocols could likely put us at risk for County involvement or intervention of campus operations that could possibly lead to research interruptions.