

**VPAA Council**  
**September 3, 2020**

**Agenda**

1. SPARK opportunities in Fall 2020 (Emily Carpenter, Nevan Fisher)
2. Research and Scholarship Innovation (Timothy Kneeland)
3. COVID related updates (All)
4. Other

**Meeting minutes**

1. SPARK update

Nevan Fisher stated that international SPARK grants for students will need to be virtual at this time. Nevan emphasized that the focus on courses in each international academic institution need to benefit both stakeholders. Emily reported students are seeking guidance from the coaches regarding what opportunities are available. Due to COVID, previous Sophomore students got their SPARK grants extended to Junior year. This extension is only applicable to this academic year.

2. Research and Scholarship Innovation

Timothy Kneeland has reached out to faculty with pending grants and provided an update on current grants. Timothy has reached out to the Faculty Development Committee to collaborate in promoting the Boyer model of scholarship to the faculty to use in their own research and end of year evaluations.

3. COVID updates

Residential students' compliance of completing the Naz daily health screening app was discussed. There will be communication to students in the FAQs that the app data are collected through Health Services and encourage compliance. Suggestions were provided on ways to follow up regarding compliance.

4. Other

Discussion regarding the Spring semester schedule included the timing of Chair submissions, advisement period/course registration, and the decision of Spring semester format. Andrea reports she is working closely with the Registrar Office. The opportunity of "Just Communities" courses was discussed with a proposed plan of 3-4 courses in the Spring semester.