To: Faculty, Administrators, and Staff
From: Robert A. Mangione, Ed.D., R.Ph., Provost
Re: Middle States Vice President Visit—Invitation to Open Forum 9/11/14
Date: Thursday, September 4, 2014

I write to you today to invite you to participate in an Open Forum, taking place on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at 12:45-1:45 p.m. in the D’Angelo Center, room 416. Dr. Debra Klinman, Vice President in the area of Field Relations for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education and staff liaison for St. John’s, will be making her preliminary visit to the University at that time.

This is a very exciting time for our University as we engage in our self-study in preparation for the site visit from the Middle States Commission Higher Education in March, 2016. Our self-study team, under the leadership of chairs Dr. Julie Upton, R.S.M., Dr. Clover Hall and Dr. Vijaya Korlipara, with the assistance of Dr. Dorothy Habben, has been doing excellent work developing our self-study design.

A very important step in the self-study process is the visit from the Middle States Commission staff liaison who is assigned to the University. The staff liaison visits the college/university to be evaluated 18 months prior to the evaluation team visit. During this visit, the Commission staff member meets with the institution’s C.E.O, selected members of the Board of Trustees, the self-study steering committee, faculty, administrators, staff and students. This important visit provides an opportunity for the Commission staff member to learn more about the current status of the institution; to assist the institution in identifying relevant issues and finding the most appropriate means of addressing them; to provide expertise on the Commission’s procedures; to assist the institution’s preparation for the self-study and peer review; and to discuss the self-study with various groups that have crucial roles throughout the process.

It is my hope that you will participate in this important gathering, to learn more about the self-study process, and to help provide Dr. Klinman with a well-rounded understanding of our University. Lunch will be provided for all who attend.

Please r.s.v.p. by September 9th.