



February 15, 2024

Dear Krieger School Faculty,

As you may have heard, President Ronald Daniels has approved a request from Ed Schlesinger, dean of the Whiting School of Engineering, to stand up a structure—independent of the Krieger School—to address those responsibilities that now fall under the Homewood Academic Council. The request was made in part because of significant and imminent growth in faculty as well as the changing needs of that division. The Krieger School is facing similar issues, and so we, too, need to review the structures currently in place to handle core academic issues. With the Whiting School moving to create their own structure, we must now determine how we go forward as an academic community. To that end, please see the attached letter I have sent to President Ronald Daniels and his response.

As both a tenured faculty member and as dean, I know that a faculty-led academic body will best serve the school now and in the years to come. The creation of this body will require us to examine the needs of our division amid a changing landscape. While our focus must be to maintain our standards of academic excellence, we must also take advantage of the unprecedented opportunity to bring more voices into academic affairs, which will lead to greater faculty inclusion and involvement across ranks and disciplines. It is also imperative that we do this work to ensure excellence, consistency, and equity in the appointment, tenure, and promotion processes. As these matters progress, regular progress reports will be posted on the KSAS Faculty Affairs webpage: <https://sites.krieger.jhu.edu/faculty-affairs/>.

I believe that any review of structures such as a KSAS-specific academic council should be led by and inspired by our faculty as part of a deliberate and thoughtful process. Effective and engaged faculty leadership, predicated on a shared governance model will lead to a stronger institution.

I look forward to working with our faculty members to pursue next steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chris Celenza".

Christopher S. Celenza, James B. Knapp Dean  
Professor of History and Classics  
Krieger School of Arts and Sciences