

CAS Faculty Senate Meeting – Minutes

November 16, 2015

a. Senators Present

Alan Fox, Andrea Barrier, Arild Hestvik, Aryana Alborzi, Barbara Ley, Blake Smith, Chad Nicholson, Deni Galileo, Eynat Gutman, James Morrison, Jennifer Nauen, Jenny Lambe, Jill Neitzel, Jocelyn Alcantara-Garcia, John Morgan, Lance Winn, Leslie Criston, Maria Johnson, Mark Greene, Mark Miller, Martha Carper, Mary Margaret Werth, Michael Cotsell, Phillip Mink, Sandeep Patel, Stuart Kaufman, William Boyer, Yasser Payne, Yuk Leung, Aishwarya Krishnakumar, Brian Ackerman (for Adele Hayes), Steve Tague (for Richard Cunningham).

b. Senators Absent

Rudi Matthee, Ted Davis, Tony Seraphim.

Meeting called to order by President Phillip Mink at 4:02 pm.

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

Approved unopposed.

2. Approval of minutes from meeting of September 28, 2015

Approved unopposed, with corrections submitted by John Morgan.

3. President's remarks: Phillip Mink

Issues concerning the transition to the new forms for Gen Ed proposals.

Outlined issues we are having with adapting Gen Ed proposals to the new forms. Noted we have 90+ proposals submitted under the old form and it presents a big procedural problem if we have to adopt the new form for proposals already on their way through the process. Resolution is being sought and the CAS Senate will be kept informed.

Deni Galileo: What's the rush?

PM: The issue is that accommodating the change will result in a lot of proposals for us to deal with.

Andrea Barrier: We did start pointing people to the new form as soon as we were notified.

Cancellation of last month's meeting

Deni Galileo: Last month's meeting was cancelled – very unusual. What was the reason? Who decided?

PM: The Steering Committee solicited input on agenda items by email to CAS Senators. One proposal was to consider the new University sexual misconduct rules, which was determined, by unanimous vote of the Steering Committee, not to be a College issue. The only other issue proposed was the motion concerning the openness of the presidential search. The motion could not have changed anything in practice because the Board of Trustees would not be able to override legal confidentiality agreements. The Steering Committee voted 4-2 that this was not sufficiently urgent to call all CAS Senators in for a meeting with that as the only agenda item.

Stuart Kaufman: So there did seem to be something on the agenda, the motion concerning the openness of the search, and it seems the steering committee decided, without reference to us, not to take it up.
Arild Hestvik: Can we not know whether something we want on the agenda will be on the agenda?
Alan Fox: It is on the agenda for this meeting, the issue was whether it was urgent enough to call a meeting just for that.
John Morgan: Suggest that a proposal to cancel a meeting be run by Senators via email discussion.
PM: Will commit to doing that.

4. Motion on the president search

Discussion

John Morgan: In view of the fact that our Board of Trustees has made a decision and the candidate has accepted, the second resolved clause is moot. It therefore makes no sense to vote on it in its current form.

Deni Galileo: I Don't want that to be interpreted as the CAS Senate withdrawing its concerns about the closed search.

Moved: To withdraw the motion

Passed with 3 no votes

5. Discussion of parliamentary procedure

John Morgan: Draws attention to handout summarizing key points from Roberts Rules of Order. Notes that 'table' is often misused and must not be confused with a motion to postpone. Please look through the points on the handout as they will be helpful to Senators.

[The Handout: http://senate.gcsu.edu/sites/senate.gcsu.edu/files/RR_forSenate_08-01-07.pdf.]

6. Straw poll on changing December 21st meeting to December 14th

PM: Concerned about quorum on 21st. Suggest changing meeting date to 14th.

Deni Galileo: Do we know that Faculty Senate has anything scheduled that would conflict?

PM: Will check.

Andrea Barrier: Part of the reason is that with over 30 Ed Affairs proposals we will miss the catalog if we don't have a quorum on the 21st.

John Morgan: Faculty Senate has not been very active holding hearings lately and, if they have a conflict on December 14th, CAS Senators can designate alternates who are able to vote in their stead.

Straw Poll: Response overwhelmingly favorable to changing the meeting date to December 14th, subject to checking on conflicts, room availability etc.

7. Educational Affairs Committee

A. Consent agenda

Andrea Barrier: these are the changes relating to course number changes

- I. Chemistry courses renumbering
 - a. MDSP – Revise BALS
 - b. PSYC – Revise BS Neuroscience
 - c. PSYC – Revise BS PSYC
 - d. CEEP – Revise BS ENEP
 - e. CHEM+BIOC – Revise BA CHEM
 - f. CHEM+BIOC – Revise Chem Ed

Deni Galileo: Are these for integrated sections?

John Burmeister, Associate Chair of the Chemistry Dept: The reason is administrative. Because it's hard keeping track of multiple regular and integrated versions especially as students have the option to pick between labs with different timetables and emphases.

Approved unopposed

- II. Anthropology
 - a. Revise BA ANTH
 - b. Revise BA ANTH ED
 - c. Revise BA ANTH Interdepartmental
 - d. Revise BA Honors ANTH / ANTH ED

Jill Neitzel: This formalizes actual policy in the Dept. to designate classes as what they are. A small subset never got the appropriate designation and these changes fix that.

Approved unopposed.

- III. Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
 - a. Revise minor – Chinese
 - b. Revise minor – Japanese
 - c. Revise minor – Russian
 - d. Revise BA – Chinese
 - e. Revise MA – in childhood foreign languages education

Mark Miller: a., b., and c. aim to align the minor with the major. d. and e. bring the respective programs back into line with other programs in the dept. Noted that, in the agenda, e. incorrectly said 'Revise BA' – it should have read 'Revise MA', as above.

Approved unopposed.

B. Non-consent agenda

- I. SOCI+CJ – Revise BA SOCI: Health & Health Services

Maria Johnson: Propose significant changes. Faculty agreed that it would be good for students to add requirements ensuring coverage of disparities of health.

Approved unopposed.

- II. ARTH – Add minor in History of Architecture and Urbanism

Larry Nees, Chair of Art History: The proposal uses faculty we already have to meet a need for people who arrive with this interest. Makes sense to gather the existing courses into a program.

Approved unopposed.

III. COMM – Revise IP Comm concentration

IV. COMM – Revise Mass Comm concentration

Jenny Lambe: Mass communication faculty felt that changes in the field warrant change of name of concentration from 'mass' to 'media' communication with corresponding changes in course names

Jim Morrison: Noted that it is helpful to know whether a change requires additional resources.

Approved unopposed

V. BISC – Revise PSM in Biotechnology

Melinda Duncan, Biology Dept: Students do a 6 month internship instead of a thesis. We needed to change the wording for the internship because the old wording was making it very difficult for foreign nationals to be allowed to complete that requirement.

Approved unopposed.

VI. CHEM+BIOC – Revise BS BIOC

VII. CHEM+BIOC – Revise BS CHEM

VIII. CHEM+BIOC – Revise graduate coursework requirements

John Burmeister: It used to be important to be able to read research in other languages. This need has functionally evaporated. Foreign languages are still important culturally and elsewhere. Other programs do not require a foreign language, we have already dispensed with it in our graduate program. It is more important to give our students more choice.

Unable to speak to VIII. No one else from Chemistry with knowledge of VIII was able to speak to the issue.

John Morgan. Point of principle not to vote on VIII without someone here to explain it.

Motion to approve VI and VII and to postpone VIII.

Carried unopposed.

8. Dean's Comments: George Watson

Update on review of new CAS bylaws

GW: Need to push the new bylaws up to the provost for approval as they are de facto CAS bylaws. Before doing that, I want to make sure all changes and adjustments have settled. The concerns I raised in spring were well incorporated. I do want to give it a close reading but haven't found the time. I'm planning to do that next week. Will want to ensure that standing committee structure meets our needs. Have been meeting with Committee on Diversity and want their input on what we should do in that area – a meeting to address that is scheduled for December. Those are the thing I am working on. It's not being held up because of some big problem. Hope that addresses concerns about the delay.

Deni Galileo: Yes, that does answer my questions.

GW: Might need to ask for a cleaned up version to send up to the provost.

Q&A

John Morgan: According to Kathy Dettloff's pie chart, at a budget presentation to the University Faculty Senate on November 2nd, the CAS share of UD expenditures was 20%. Seemed a bit low to me and it would not be the first time that the budget office has got some numbers wrong.

GW: Some of my numbers are from Responsibility Based Budgeting (RBB), Kathy's are from other areas. We may just be referring to somewhat different numbers.

John: Want to know what's really going on.

GW: I don't know to that precision. Kathy has the official numbers, and I have high confidence that she has the right numbers. It's not worth chasing down discrepancies that are probably just to do with talking about somewhat different things.

GW: The CAS budget is of the order of \$200 million. RBB is still settling out. And there is a lot of fluidity in the budget as enrolments fluctuate etc. Some concerns of last year were somewhat ameliorated by the profile of the incoming class since then.

Jim Morrison: CAS faculty numbers are down over the last few years. Where are we now? Do you anticipate further losses due to retirements, etc?

GW: Much of this depends exactly when you report. We are now hiring at a more aggressive level. No guarantee that the college will stay the same size or keep growing. I do not agree that getting smaller is ipso facto a problem or that bigger is always in the right direction.

Jim: Are we moving to STEM being the priority with a devaluation of liberal arts / human judgment?

GW: That's a big one. Natural sciences are an important part of A&S and are part of liberal arts. STEM is expensive and the University has been investing heavily. People do worry about articulating the value of deep study in other areas. I don't see that the college is moving away from valuing the liberal arts but University priorities may shift. We have cluster hires and are trying to do more of that – identifying groups that would benefit from the hire.

Jim: How do the non-science departments feel – e.g. Philosophy. They have been feeling squeezed.

GW: When I started as Dean, Philosophy was feeling beleaguered. But that's a dated view of Philosophy – there have been two recent Assistant Professor hires and another happening now.

John Morgan: Do you expect changes with the new budget model?

GW: Not really. No so much that can be tweaked.

John: what about the teaching models. Seem to excessively overvalue having students in your college.

GW: Keep in mind that the percentage of teaching happening in CAS is going down.

John: Has the percentage of majors in CAS been going down?

GW: In some areas - yes. We need to consider recruiting. Some of it's national trends, student debt, etc. Some is exaggerated in national press. Going to college is still a great value proposition. The difference between going to college and not going to college is big; the difference between STEM and other areas is not so great.

9. Old Business

None.

10. Introduction of New Business

None.

Adjournment: 17:25pm.
