

Minutes of the CAS Faculty Senate Meeting of April 18, 2022

April 18, 2022, 4:00 PM ET to 5:10 PM ET

Attending: James Angelini; Jennifer Barker; Alan Fox; Katie Gwaltney; John Morgan; John Pelesko; Jennifer Trivedi; Nonie Bell; Erin Cassese; Jon Cox; Peter Feng; Darryl Flaherty; Deni Galileo; Christine Grogan; Dominique Guillot; Eynat Gutman; Adele Hayes; Richard Hanley; Jason Hill; John Jungck; Jenny Lobasz; Dilla López-Gydosh; Bernard McKenna; Nina Owczarek; Talley Ridgeway; Tom Rocek; Kimberly Schroeder; Jorge Serrano; Jia Song; Gunner Taylor; Shawna Vican; Neal Zondlo; **Unknown: 16105621067**

President Jennifer Barker opened the meeting.

The meeting agenda was unanimously adopted with 22 then-present senators voting in favor.

The minutes from the March 21, 2022 meeting were unanimously approved with 23 then-present senators voting in favor.

Dean John Pelesko then made his comments, the slides for which are attached here. He thanked Lauren Petersen for serving as Associate Dean of the Humanities. She is stepping down on August 31 and returning to the faculty, so there will be a replacement search launched with Susan Burton, Dan Smith, and James Angelini serving on the search committee. Reach out to Dean Pelesko if you have any questions or are interested in serving.

408 prospective students attended the second Decision Day event on April 9. The new design is working well. The final day will be on April 23. 520 students are registered, with interest for every department. With families, there will be around 1,500 guests. These are students who applied to UD and are making their final decision.

Regarding the Blue & Golden Saturdays redesign, there is a clear impact on the deposits. 27% of students who attended Blue & Golden Saturdays have already put down a deposit, compared to 20% in 2020 total and 13% in 2021 (virtually). Dean Pelesko appreciates everyone's help for those events.

CAS deposits are up 16% over last year and are 58% of the way towards the target for the incoming class. Rates usually go up as we get closer towards the May 1 deadline. UD deposits as a whole are up about 6.6%, but only 1-2% if you take out CAS deposits, meaning CAS is driving much of the UD increase.

The peer-to-peer mentoring program was launched on April 4, building on the mentoring program for juniors and seniors by alumni which is working extraordinarily well. Both are planned and funded by alumni. This year's incoming class will be paired with rising sophomores and juniors. 216 mentors had registered by April 5. Mentees will be recruited later and they will be paired over the summer.

The Student Success Council from the reimagined strategic plan will involve people from across the institution. It is now underway with 5 subcommittees working on different aspects of student success, including Data Analysis & Dissemination, the Future of Advising at UD, the First Year Seminar, the First Year Experience, and Non-Traditional Pathways.

The US News and World Report Rankings of the Best Graduate School Rankings included 12 programs in CAS, several of which moved up from previous rankings, including the Biological Sciences program which moved up 40 points thanks to the work of faculty and leadership.

During the Q&A Dean Pelesko clarified that we do have enough faculty to teach this growing incoming class. Each year as the target class size is developed with both CAS and other colleges (given CAS's base role in their education), this is considered with department chairs. We could go above the target and be okay, but we have not hit the target since 2017, so he would be thrilled if we do. There are a few areas that would be stress points to consider that are regularly stress points, like ENGL 110.

It was also questioned if comparing this data to just the last two years was helpful or not and more data from at least 1 pre-pandemic year was requested. Dean Pelesko clarified that some data can be dug out, but it may not be a good comparison due to significant changes in UD's application process.

If you are interested in being connected to the 60-person Student Success Council for data or questions on who to consult, Dean Pelesko can put you in contact with the correct person.

Many Senators agreed that many students seem to be doing worse this semester, with a sort of "bottom half" of classes full of students who are struggling to engage. This has also come from chairs in appraisal discussions. One of the goals of the UD Strategic Plan is to get student support in place as we move forward and see increasing numbers of students coming in with different levels of preparation. One of Student Success Council's goals is to coordinate this support. Other Senators added that this year has seen a dramatic increase in the percentage of students in the DF range of grades, reflecting not just problems of preparation, but also motivation and socialization. Questions were raised, echoing earlier discussions, about how transfer numbers were looking, but Dean Pelesko does not yet have those.

COCAN Chair John Morgan presented his report. Most of the committees are in good shape. There remains a persistent vacancy for the Arts Portfolio on the P&T Committee. We are a little light on the Ed Affairs Committee in the Social Sciences Portfolio. There is a vacancy on the Diversity Committee, but there are 4 volunteers. Later this week there will be an election for At-Large CAS Senators with 4 candidates, making it a competitive election.

For graduate student councilors and alternates, there are several departments due for an election, although the website may not be up-to-date. There is also some uncertainty in the by laws regarding the language and if councilors should serve two 2-year terms or a 1-year term followed by a 2-year term, so he is waiting on a response.

In Q&A there was discussion of the critical importance of having Arts Portfolio representation on the P&T Committee, particularly given that these can be the hardest dossiers for non-Arts members to review. Senator Morgan reiterated that there is 1 such person on the committee, but it has been a struggle to get a second since they need to be from separate departments, it is a small portfolio, and they must be tenured faculty

COCAN Chair John Morgan then lead a discussion and vote on a revision of the CAS Bylaws related to the CAS P&T Committee. While previous revisions had increased the committee's size to 2 faculty members from each portfolio and 1 CT faculty member, given the problems related to the Arts Portfolio, this change would allow for a flexible committee size and just 1 Arts Portfolio representative when needed.

In Q&A there was discussion regarding the language of the revisions to the Bylaws, including removal of discussion of the 2016 changes.

The resolution to change the Bylaws passes by a vote of 26 to 1.

Senator Morgan then shared proposed revisions to the Provost's website, ensuring the language there reflected these new changes, changing the word "decision" to "recommendation" to better reflect what happens at levels below the Provost's office, clarifying some of the specific language around terms like "made known" and "unclear," and clarifying that P&T committee members can vote and participate in discussions of a dossier at this level or the department level, but not both.

The resolution to change the website language passes by a vote of 27 to 1.

President Barker then opened the meeting to new business.

There was a discussion regarding how Senators are let into the meeting, with the clarification that if you arrive late you may have to wait as it is difficult to admit people when someone is sharing their screen.

Senator Hanley recognized John Morgan for his amazing work, which Senator Morgan thanked him for before adding that the P&T Committee revisions are not completed yet, as they need to be approved by the Dean and at the University level.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 PM ET.

The background features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the University of Delaware seal. The seal is circular and contains a shield with two open books. The left book is inscribed with 'GRAMM PHILOL RHETOR ETHICA' and the right book with 'METAPH LOGICA MATHEM PHYSICA'. Below the shield is a banner with the motto 'SOLUS SEQUITUR'. The outer ring of the seal contains the text 'UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE' and the year '1743'.

CAS Senate Meeting

April 18, 2022



A special thank you to Lauren Petersen



- Five years of service as Associate Dean for the Humanities
- Extended her term twice!
- Returning to faculty on August 31, 2022
- Search for new AD to launch shortly (Burton, Smith, Angelini serving as search committee)

Decision Days

520!



CAS Decision Day - Saturday, April 9

8:30 am Morning Meeting with the Dean, Gore Hall, Room 117

All faculty hosts are asked to attend this quick meeting with the Dean and AD's to hear important details about the event.

9:30 – 10:30 am Department Presentations (*See Room Assignment on Next Page*)

10:30 – 11:30 am Department Drop-Ins

Departments remain in Classrooms for 1:1 talks with prospective students and visits from students interested in double majors

10:45 – 11:15 am Secondary Education Q & A Session, Gore Hall, Room 219

Are you interested in learning more about teaching your favorite subject to middle or high school students after graduating from UD? In this session, Dr. Kristin Nelson, Director of the Center for Secondary Teaching, will provide information about becoming a teacher and describe exciting opportunities in the field of education.

10:45 – 11:30 am Medical School Pathways Presentation, Trabant Multi-Purpose Room,

hosted by the UD Department of Biological Sciences

12:30 – 2:00 pm ISLL Tour and Open House

The Interdisciplinary Science Learning Laboratories will host an open house from 12:30-2:30 in rooms 107 and 110 on the ground floor of Harker ISELabs.

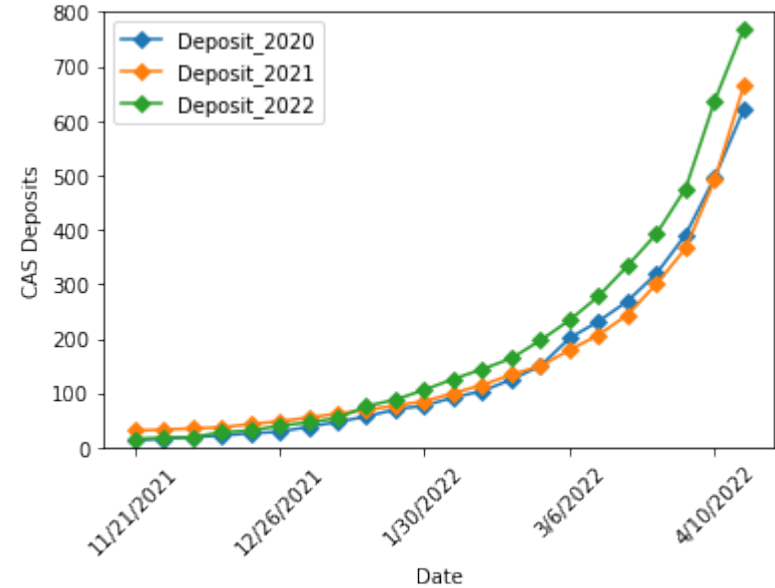
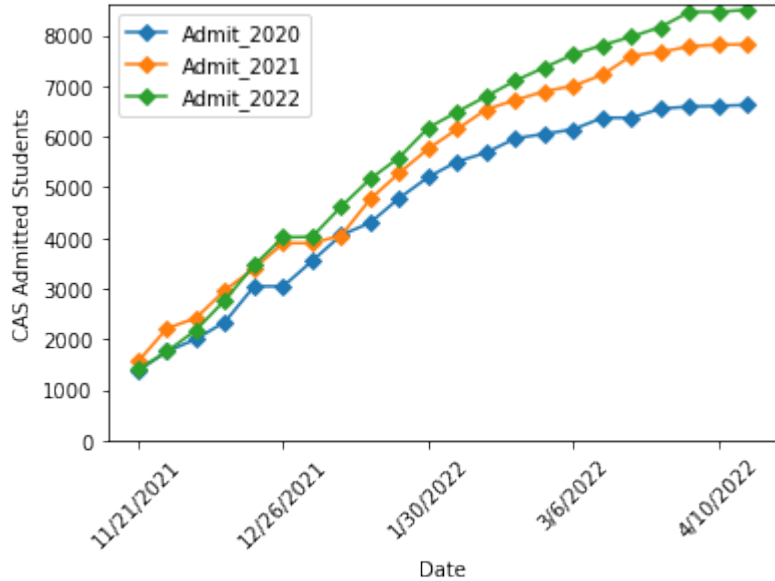
Prospective students and their families will be led through a brief interactive lab activity, learn about instructional support for student learning in our space, and have the opportunity to speak with student peer mentors to learn about their experiences of the natural science laboratories here at UD.

Blue & Golden Saturdays



| Year of entry | % of B&G Attendees Depositing |
|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 2020 | 20.1% |
| 2021 | 13.68% |
| 2022 | 27.16% |

The percentage of admitted students who attended our B&G event and subsequently deposited is *up* since our last in-person version in 2020.



CAS deposits are *up* 16% over last year. We are 58% of the way to our target.

UD deposits as a whole are *up* 6.6% from last year.

Peer Mentoring Program



- Peer to peer mentoring program launched 4/4/2022
- Aim is to match 500 incoming freshman with rising sophomores and juniors
- Already have 216 mentors registered!

Student Success Council

- Data – Analysis and Dissemination (Reeves/Gockenbach)
- The Future of Advising at UD (Okagaki/Ritz)
- The First Year Seminar (Cantley/Lee)
- The First Year Experience (Kovanic/Leon)
- Non-traditional Pathways (Weber/Irvine)



2023 Best
Graduate Schools,
US News and
World Report

12 CAS Programs
Ranked, several
moved upward!

Biological Sciences ranked #100, up from #140.
That's a jump 40 spots upwards in the rankings!