

## CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

ZOOM

**Present:** Mark Blumberg, Chris Cheatum, Monica Correia, Raul Curto, Roxanna Curto, Armando Duarte, Christine Getz, Erin Irish, Brian Lai, Cornelia Lang, Teresa Mangum, Roland Racevskis, Ana Rodriguez-Rodriguez, Sara Sanders, Joshua Weiner

**Absent:** Rebekah Kowal

**Guests:** Becca Tritten

### 1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 30<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

### 2. DWLLC Discussion

In May 2023, CLAS adopted [criteria](#) for a unit to be a department. One of those criteria is that a department must have at least five [five] 75% appointment tenured/tenure-track faculty. This was seen as the minimum necessary to maintain a healthy major, support graduate education, and cover basic service and administrative responsibilities such as serving as DEO and directors of undergraduate and (if needed) graduate studies, conducting annual reviews and promotional reviews, mentoring students, etc. The unit criteria will go into effect July 1, 2025.

The Deans are now discussing the effects of the criteria with DEOs. The DEOs of the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DWLLC) have been meeting with the Deans about the challenges of being a Division and possible new formations for the departments in the Division. Those DEOS will attend the February 20 EC meeting to have a conversation about their future plans.

### 3. Unit Criteria Implementation

Dean Sanders reviewed with EC areas within the College that may be impacted by the implementation of the CLAS unit criteria. Two EC members did not participate in the discussion due to a conflict of interest.

### 4. SLA Program Closure

On behalf of the Graduate Educational Policy Committee (GEPC), Associate Dean Christine Getz discussed with EC the proposal to close the Second Language Acquisition (SLA) PhD program. Key faculty members who led this impressive program in the past with great success have retired or passed away. Current faculty members are unable to devote adequate time to lead the program; they therefore proposed closing the program. The GEPC has already met and discussed the proposal to close the program. The EC accepted the recommendation of GEPC and the departments. Three EC members did not participate in the discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary

**CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes**  
**Tuesday, February 13, 2024**  
**8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**  
**ZOOM**

**Present:** Mark Blumberg, Chris Cheatum, Monica Correia, Raul Curto, Roxanna Curto, Armando Duarte, Christine Getz, Erin Irish, Rebekah Kowal, Brian Lai, Cornelia Lang, Teresa Mangum, Roland Racevskis, Sara Sanders, Joshua Weiner

**Absent:** Ana Rodriguez-Rodriguez

**Guests:** Kung-Sik Chan, Becca Tritten

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 6<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved, as amended.

**2. CLAS MOPP Revision Proposal messaging**

Dean Sara Sanders welcomed the group and gave a brief overview of the planned CLAS Manual of Policy and Procedure (MOPP) revision proposal messaging. Voting will end on Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m. and messaging will be sent out to faculty on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Actuarial Science**

Professor and DEO Kung-Sik Chan provided a presentation to Executive Committee (EC) regarding the Actuarial Science program. The presentation provided an overview of the major and how it works. Professor Chan also discussed successes of the program and challenges the program faces, particularly due to a declining number of majors. Professor Chan also described planned changes for the program to help with engagement of students, beginning fall of 2024.

**4. Updates and further discussion**

Dean Sanders continued the discussion of the actuarial science program with EC, post presentation.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary

**CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 20, 2024**

**8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**ZOOM**

**Present:** Mark Blumberg, Chris Cheatum, Monica Correia, Raul Curto, Roxanna Curto, Armando Duarte, Christine Getz, Erin Irish, Rebekah Kowal, Brian Lai, Cornelia Lang, Teresa Mangum, Roland Racevskis, Ana Rodriguez-Rodriguez, Sara Sanders, Joshua Weiner

**Absent:** None.

**Guests:** Jill Beckman, Amber Brian, Glenn Ehrstine, Sarah Fagan, Kendall Heitzman, Gabbie McDermott, Becca Tritten

**1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 13<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved, as amended.

**2. CLAS MOPP Revision Proposal follow up discussion**

Dean Sara Sanders welcomed everyone and engaged the group in a brief discussion about next steps regarding the revision of the Manual of Policy and Procedure.

**3. Conversation with Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (DWLLC)**

The EC welcomed leaders from DWLLC, who gave an overview of DWLLC and proposed a reorganization of the Division into three departments. This leadership team included Jill Beckman, Associate Professor and Division Director; Amber Brian, Associate Professor and DEO of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese; Roxanna Curto, Associate Professor and DEO of the Department of French and Italian; Sarah Fagan, Professor and DEO of Department of Linguistics; Glenn Ehrstine, Associate Professor and Program Director of the Department of German; Kendall Heitzman, Associate Professor and DEO of the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures; and Gabbie McDermott, Administrator for the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Culture.

The unit leaders proposed to dissolve the current Division and to create three distinct departments. These would be a Department of Linguistics (to include English as a Second Language and American Sign Language), a Department of Spanish and Portuguese (to include Latin American Studies), and a Department of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures which would include all of the remaining programs and departments currently in the Division structure. They proposed making this transition effective as of July 1 of 2025. EC will continue the discussion at a future meeting.

Two EC members did not participate in the discussion due to a conflict of interest.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary

## **CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes**

**Tuesday, February 27, 2024**

**8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**ZOOM**

**Present:** Mark Blumberg, Chris Cheatum, Monica Correia, Raul Curto, Roxanna Curto, Armando Duarte, Christine Getz, Erin Irish, Rebekah Kowal, Brian Lai, Cornelia Lang, Teresa Mangum, Roland Racevskis, Ana Rodriguez-Rodriguez, Sara Sanders, Joshua Weiner

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Brad Cramer, Emily Finzel, Megan Gogerty, Ben Hill, Kathy Mellen, David Peate, Heather Sander, Tiffany Schier, Becca Tritten

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved, as amended.

### **2. CLAS Instructional Track Faculty Policy Update**

Associate Deans Chris Cheatum and Roland Racevskis welcomed Associate Professors of Instruction Megan Gogerty and Kathy Mellen to the Executive Committee (EC) meeting to discuss the Instructional Track Faculty (ITF) Policy. They currently serve on a CLAS committee that is revising the ITF policy to align with the Provost's ITF policies and with the ways ITF work in different parts of the College. Another goal of the committee is to clarify workload expectations and the promotion process. After thanking Professors Gogerty and Mellen for their excellent work, EC members provided feedback. Professors Gogerty and Mellen will take suggestions from EC back to the committee for further consideration.

### **3. School of Earth, Environment, and Sustainability Presentation**

Dean Sara Sanders welcomed leaders from the Department of Geographical and Sustainability Sciences (GSS) and the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES). Professor and DEO David Peate, EES; Associate Professor Brad Cramer, EES; Associate Professor Emily Finzel, EES; and Associate Professor Heather Sander, GSS presented a proposal to EC that would establish a School of Earth, Environment, and Sustainability. The proposal would merge two departments (Earth and Environmental Sciences and Geographical and Sustainability Sciences). Together the group outlined the benefits:

- to create a bigger front door for students interested in environment, climate, and sustainability
- to build interdisciplinary research strength and enhance collaboration
- to grow enrollments across the two majors
- to streamline existing majors.

EC members thanked the guests for a beautifully organized and inspiring overview of their plans. The two departments would transition into this larger unit effective July 1, 2025. EC will continue to discuss the proposal at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary