

CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes

Tuesday, March 5, 2024

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

ZOOM

Present: 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: Mark Blumberg

Guests: Michael Cowan, Ben Hill, Becca Tritten

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 27th meeting were approved.

2. Education on EC Membership Vacancies

Dean Sara Sanders provided Executive Committee (EC) with an overview of the process that is used when there is a membership vacancy on one of the CLAS elected shared governance committees. Those committees are: EC, Faculty Assembly (FA), Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum Committee (UEPCC), and Graduate Educational Policy Committee (GEPC). First, the Dean turns to the faculty members on the ballot in the most recent election. If they are not available, the Dean then considers faculty members who have past experience on the committee. Dean Sanders then proposed a plan for how to cover two upcoming vacancies in EC for the 2024-2025 academic year. EC vote 6-2 in favor of this plan.

3. Conversation with DEO, Department of Cinematic Arts

Professor and DEO Michael Cowan provided EC with a presentation regarding the current status of the Department of Cinematic Arts. This presentation included information regarding the increase in majors and the overall demand for instructional support to meet the needs of the program. He also explained how mission of the program matches the current strategic priorities of the University. EC found the presentation both informative and insightful and followed up with few questions during a group discussion.

4. Further Conversation Post Presentations by Leaders Forming New Departments

Dean Sanders asked EC if any additional information would be helpful in order to advance their conversations regarding the recent proposals for future organization by the environmental sciences group and the Division of World Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. Noting their appreciation for the two thorough and thoughtful proposals, the EC will develop recommendations for both groups at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary

CLAS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE Minutes

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

8:45 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

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 (zoom)

Absent: Sara Sanders, Joshua Weiner

Guests: Megan Gogerty, Kathy Mellen, Tiffany Schier, Becca Tritten

1. Approval of Minutes, Announcements, and Introductions

Associate Dean Christine Getz led the Executive Committee (EC) today due to Dean Sara Sanders traveling with the UICA to meet with potential donors. The meeting started with approval of the minutes from the March 5th meeting.

Associate Dean Cornelia Lang introduced new employee Emily Hurst, Senior Behavioral Health Clinician. Ms. Hurst holds a donor-funded position in which she will work closely with teams from Student Care and Assistance (SCA) and CLAS Undergraduate Programs (CLAS UP). In this position, she will support students and consult with faculty and staff regarding academic accommodation requests, basic needs insecurity, and possible safety concerns.

2. CLAS Instructional Track Faculty Policy Update

Associate Professors of Instruction of Megan Gogerty and Kathy Mellen returned to EC to provide updates on 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 members work in different parts of the College. They once again requested feedback from EC members as they move towards a final draft of the policy.

The discussion focused on the timeline of the project, expectations for "professional productivity," and equitable review practices, among other topics. All agreed that the effectiveness of any and all changes will depend on the commitment of departments to review the new policy once it is approved and to clarify the kinds of evidence each department needs from ITF faculty during reviews, based on disciplinary markers of success. The EC members warmly applauded the thoughtful, insightful work of Professors Gogerty and Mellen and the committee members.

3. Faculty Salary Process

Associate Dean Roland Racevskis provided an update to EC on the process by which faculty salary merit increases will be determined in the College.

4. Percentage Change in Faculty Budgeted Appointment and Faculty Line Shift Requests

Associate Deans Roland Racevskis and Chris Cheatum led a discussion of six requests from faculty to make a percentage change in their faculty budgeted appointment within CLAS. Six faculty members have made a request to change their appointments beginning Fall 2024.

EC member Professor Brian Lai was excused to respect the UI conflict of interest policy. EC approved one request. Due to time constraints, EC members will continue discussions at a future meeting.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Teresa Mangum, Secretary