

FAIRMOUNT LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES COLLEGE COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA & NOTES

DATE & TIME: MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2015 @ 3:00-4:15 PM

PRESENT

Biology – Mary Liz Jameson (secretary)
Chemistry – Moriah Beck (A)
Elliott School of Communications – Pat Dooley (C)
English – Chris Brooks (C, chair)
History – Jeff Hayton (A)
Math & Statistics – Thalia Jeffries (chair)
MCLL – Brigitte Roussel (B, chair)
Physics – Nick Solomay (C)
School of Community Affairs – Marti Smith (B)
Social Work – Douglas Crews (A)
Sociology – Chase Billingham (B)
Women’s Studies – Debbie Gordon (C)
LAS Dean’s Office – Ron Matson (Dean) & Cheryl Miller

Prior Committee Designations

- (A) Academic planning
- (B) Ad hoc
- (C) Budget

NOT PRESENT

Anthropology – Don Blakeslee (B)
Geology – Collette Burke (B)
Hugo Wall School of Public Administration – Arwiphawee (Sai) Srithongrung (C)
Political Science – Neal Allen (A)
Philosophy – Noell Birondo (A, chair)
Psychology – Rui (Ray) Ni (A)

1. Approval of Minutes

- Chris Brooks moved and Moriah Beck seconded the motion to approve the April 27th Council Meeting minutes with minor grammatical changes provided by C. Brooks. This motion was approved by unanimous vote.

2. Election of Chair and Secretary

- Both Marti Smith and Moriah Beck will be stepping down from posts on Executive Committee, so nominations from the CC were solicited by M. Smith. Thalia Jeffries nominated herself and, given no other nominations, Chris Brooks recommended that we close the nominations. Pat Dooley seconded this motion and the CC voted unanimously to elect Thalia Jeffries as the new CC Chair.
- Mary Liz Jameson volunteered to fill the secretary position and no opposing nomination was provided, so the CC also unanimously elected Mary Liz Jameson to fill the secretary position.
- Marti Smith fulfilled the role of chair for this initial meeting to carry forward the previous committees’ agenda items

3. Sub-committee Selection

- Marti Smith reminded the council that we had previously decided to discontinue the committee designations (Academic planning, Ad-Hoc, and Budget) in favor of a rotating assignment, so committees will now be assigned tasks as they arise and are designated A, B, and C. We were also reminded that each committee must have members representing the three different divisions (humanities, social sciences, and natural/mathematical sciences) and nominate a chair that has tenure (preferably).
- Selection of committees was carried out on voluntary basis, keeping in mind these policies and new committees/chairs are provided in roster above.
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4. Appointment of elections commissioner

- The College Governance document now stipulates that the CC formally appoints an elections commissioner at its first meeting in the Fall. After determining that Debbie Soles was willing to serve in this capacity again this year, Chris Brooks nominated her. This nomination was seconded by Debbie Gordon and passed the council unanimously.

5. Performance review of Dean Matson

- Although not a formal requirement at this time, Dean Matson requested that the council carry out a formal performance review in light of the fact that he has served as interim Dean for two years and formally as the Dean for another year. He would like feedback on his performance and would like the results of this review shared with Vice President Vizzini. This assignment was given to committee C as they have recently completed their assignment. Although no time table was requested, it is likely that the committee can complete or initiate this review early in the semester before other issues arise. It was also recommended that these data be collected by David Wright's office in light of conflict of interest from those entities within the Dean's office or college.

6. College Governance Document

- After the discussion and approval of revisions to the LAS College Governance document in previous CC meetings, Marti Smith merely highlighted the changes that were carried out regarding (1) change in rotation of CC committee designations mentioned previously, (2) replacement of "school/division" with "degree-granting entity," (3) dropping of required CV and other supporting documents online for those running for election and (4) inclusion of term limits for chair and secretary of CC.
- Revisions will be carried out by Marti Smith and reviewed by Chris Brooks before distribution to entire college (by Thursday, September 3).
- LAS Faculty Assembly will discuss and vote on these changes at the next meeting on September 10 at 3 p.m. in 100 Lindquist Hall.

7. Dean's Remarks - Dean Matson discussed three different topics with the council:

- **Enrollment** has dropped ~3% (~370 students from 15,000) overall, however the official count will not be provided until the 20th day of classes. The biggest change noted was that the number of local high school graduates has been in decline and will continue for the next several years, which may account for this decrease. The credit hours in LAS has also decreased ~5% overall and ~7% in Natural/Mathematical Sciences. The Dean has not yet determined the cause, but will investigate at the department level. Enrollment in COE and Health Professions is also down and it is still too early to determine whether this may be the effect of recent increases in fees in these colleges. Only Education and Business have increases in enrollment.
 - A question from Chase Billingham was in reference to concern about the fee structure and why these fees will not be provided to LAS for courses these students take in this college. The Dean responded that he is likewise concerned and has raised these budgetary concerns. So far no changes in the fee structure at the college level have been allowed, however proposals for changes from departments for programmatic services are likely to meet approval. Nick Solomey commented that even these departmental fees already in place for labs (especially Chemistry) may need to be reevaluated to cover actual expenses. Dean Matson commented that LAS is currently "running in the red" and overages are picked up by University, but no change in initial budgeting is allowed.
- **Strategic Planning** should continue to progress into level three, which will involve outcome measures.
- **Research Funding** for LAS increased from \$5.8 million in external funding to \$7 million for FY15.

8. Announcements – Cheryl reminded us that LAS now has a Face Book page and that although this site will not be used for business, departments can share announcements of upcoming events. Dean Matson pointed out that the creation of a FB page was recommended by the LAS College Advisory Board as a means of communicating primarily with alumni of the college and recommends that each Department also create public FB pages.

Past Agreements

Who	Who Else	What	By When
Executive Committee	Cheryl Miller	Review and Revise the College Governance document	End of Fall 2014
APC	Patricia Phillips	Determine how this change in required hours in major at WSU will affect BGS and field majors	End of Fall 2014
APC	Executive committee	Compare the LAS college level T&P policy to that of the University.	Preliminary review completed, assigned to APC
Executive committee	Chris Brooks, Cheryl Miller	The EC will look over FS minutes a week before the full CC meeting to look for items that overlap with our remit. We will also contact the FS Executive Committee to set up a way to get this information more directly from them and alert them to issues we are discussing. Cheryl Miller will be setting up the LAS schedule for the next year in July and will schedule the CC meetings with an eye toward avoiding CC-FS scheduling conflicts.	ongoing
Chris Brooks	Budget Committee	Forward the recommendations and research regarding non - tenure track faculty to the Faculty Senate	April 2015

Today's Agreements

Who	Who Else	What	By When
(B) Ad Hoc committee	Marti Smith	Continue discussion of Student conduct responses by University...touch base with new director, VP Eric Sexton.	Fall 2015
(A) Academic planning committee	LAS T & P committee	Review/Compare Tenure and Promotion Policies of College to those of University	Fall 2015
Marti Smith	Chris Brooks and Cheryl Miller	Update and review all changes as agreed upon by College Council to present to LAS Faculty Assembly	Sept. 3, 2015
(A) Academic Planning Committee		Draft of catalog language for # hours in major for BGS/Field majors	Fall 2015
(C) Budget committee	David Wright & Cheryl Miller	Carry out performance review of Dean Matson Previously used questionnaire provided by Cheryl Collection and analysis to be performed by David Wright's group	Fall 2015