

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting
February 05, 2015

Members Present: Elizabeth Faue, Avis Vidal, Michael Belzer, Ed Golenberg, Krista Brumley, Charles Parrish, Larry Lombard, Anne Duggan, Jennifer Wareham, Caroline Morgan, Geoffrey Nathan

Attending: Wayne Raskind, Robert Aguirre, Paul Clemens, Caroline Brzuchowski, Christine Chow, Peter Hoffmann, Donald Haase

Absent With Notice: Yifan Zhang, Barry Lyons, John Klein, Mark Ferguson, Claudio Verani, Danielle McGuire, Lisa Maruca

The meeting was called to order at 9:25.

The minutes of the December 04, 2014 meeting were approved.

The proposed changes to the Philosophy major and minor; the proposed revision to the requirements to the Psychology major; and the proposed changes to the Physics, Biomedical Physics, and Astronomy majors were all approved.

Dean Raskind spoke of the enrollment decline in CLAS and in the university. He said that while majors are showing growth, in part because of a decline in the number of undeclared students, we do not have enough enrollment overall.

The modification to the MS in Criminal Justice was approved.

Peter Hoffmann spoke of the college committee developing guidelines for online courses. Anne Duggan asked if the college wanted the departments' policies; Hoffmann said yes. The dean observed that we're behind other universities in our online offerings, and that we need more students of all kinds, including online students. Duggan noted that CMLLC is trying to get General Education courses online in the summer so that students don't go elsewhere. Hoffmann said that, while the focus is on professional master's degrees, there is also a focus at the undergraduate level on General Education, remedial, and bridge courses.

Charles Parrish mentioned the new General Education Reform Committee, saying that any proposed reforms could hit the college hard. There were also concerns about the constitution of the committee, which comes largely from the sciences.

The dean noted that CLAS is about to form its own committee to look at the college group requirements. In general, the dean said, we need to simplify requirements. He called our conception of General Education "dated."

Our biggest challenge, the dean said, remains enrollment. There followed a wide-ranging discussion about what can be done shore up enrollment, with the dean saying that we need to do

a better job not just of recruiting new students, but of keeping the students we have. Charles Parrish said that the departments need to be enlisted in recruiting students.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30.