

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Council Meeting
October 02, 2014

Members Present: Avis Vidal, Mark Ferguson, Ed Golenberg, Krista Brumley, Charles Parrish, Larry Lombard, Lisa Maruca, Jennifer Wareham, Caroline Morgan, Michael Belzer, Barry Lyons, John Klein, Claudio Verani, Geoffrey Nathan, Yifan Zhang, Anne Duggan

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

Absent With Notice: Danielle McGuire, Elizabeth Faue

The meeting was called to order at 9:05.

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

Brad Smith, the Interim Chair of Criminal Justice, and Jennifer Wareham, Criminal Justice faculty and member of Faculty Council, took questions about the online MA program in Criminal Justice.

Avis Vidal, speaking on behalf of the Curriculum Committee, noted that this program is already operational as of Fall 2014, and that the Faculty Council's discussion was thus not to decide upon approval. In the future, online programs—even those, such as the one in Criminal Justice, that simply convert an existing program into an online version—will go through the usual review and approval process.

There were questions and comments about online education in general, including questions about what constitutes best practices and proper faculty training. Peter Hoffmann said that a college committee was being formed to establish CLAS guidelines for online education.

Mark Ferguson mentioned the Faculty Council Blackboard site as a tool for council members to discuss a re-imagining of CLAS from the ground up. There was debate about the merits of Blackboard for such purposes, with others preferring e-mail or a listserv.

John Klein inquired about increases to course enrollments, noting that his calculus course had gone from thirty to forty students. Dean Raskind said that macro-level instructions were given to the chairs to ensure course availability given the decrease in the college, due to budget cuts, of both faculty lines and part-time budget.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30.