

## **FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 20, 2020**

Members Present: Zachary Brewster, Bradley Smith, Victor Figueroa, Fatih Celiker, Lara Jones, Aaron Retish, Larry Lombard, Lisa Ze Winters, Edward Golenberg, Lori Pile, Karen Marrero, Michael Belzer, Leisa Kauffmann

Attending: Stephanie Hartwell, Heather Dillaway, Paul Clemens, Caroline Brzuchowski, Ratna Naik, Ken Jackson, Claudio Verani, Margaret Greenwald, Victoria Meller

Absent with Notice: Christopher Trentacosta, John Klein, Smiti Gupta, Charles Parrish, Thomas Killion

The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

The minutes of the January 9, 2020 meeting were approved.

Margaret Greenwald spoke of the new minor in Communication Sciences and Disorders, which she said is in response to student demand and is made up of existing courses. The minor was approved.

As a new program, the minor should go to the Faculty Assembly for approval before being sent to the Provost's Office. Heather Dillaway asked, since the assembly does not meet again until April, that the proposal be sent to the Provost's Office first, and then go to the assembly. The motion in support of this reversal of the usual ordering was approved.

Victoria Meller spoke of the proposed MS in Molecular Biotechnology, which was approved. Aaron Retish requested that the Biology Department report back about the "mini courses" that were part of the proposal.

Claudio Verani spoke of the CLAS Undergraduate Research Portfolio Program, noting that he had recently met with the advisors in CLAS in order to improve the program. Zachary Brewster asked if students already funded through UROP could be in the program. Verani said they could. Lori Pile asked if students already getting credit for a directed study could still be in the program. Verani said that those sort of specifics still need to be worked out.

Ratna Naik spoke of the college policy on graders and how payment has now been standardized based upon student enrollment.

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Caroline Brzuchowski spoke of the new system being used for college elections and of the perennial need for candidates.

Stephanie Hartwell spoke of the non-renewal notices that had been sent to lecturers, noting that such notices are contractual and connected to the budget process.

Zachary Brewster asked about the criteria for the raises given to chairs, noting that many such raises looked to be in the 4-5% range. Hartwell said that such raises are according to her judgment and based on criteria such as efficiency and leadership. Ed Golenberg, speaking of the non-renewal notices, asked about communication with chairs and lecturers and said that lecturers are unsure if they should be seeking other opportunities.

Hartwell said that a lot depends on the upcoming budget hearing on March 4<sup>th</sup>. With downward enrollment trends and extensive deferred maintenance on many campus buildings, she said, budgets will likely continue to be tight.

Lara Jones spoke of the continued effort to get course syllabi on the schedule of classes and on Canvas in ways that students can easily access. She said that the next meeting on this issue is in late March.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50.