

FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2020

Members Present: Lara Jones, Edward Golenberg, Zachary Brewster, Victor Figueroa, Aaron Retish, Lori Pile, Karen Marrero, Leisa Kauffmann, Charles Parrish, Smiti Gupta, Christopher Trentacosta, Yuson Jung, Clayton Walker, Jeff Grynawski, Fatih Celiker, Lisa Ze Winters

Attending: Stephanie Hartwell, Caroline Brzuchowski, Ratna Naik, Ken Jackson, Claudio Verani, Heather Dillawa

Absent with Notice: Paul Clemens

Absent without Notice: Tom Killion and Eric Kessel

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

The minutes of the September 10, 2020 meeting were approved.

Ratna Naik led the discussion of the Article XXX nominations. All nominations were voted on and approved. Some discussion by Aaron Retish regarding the recruitment of faculty and academic staff to encourage more service and do self-nomination.

Curriculum Items:

Changes to MA in English – voted and approved.

Changes to Minor in Philosophy – voted and approved.

Course prefix change for the newly renamed Department of Environmental Science and Geology – voted and approved, will go to the Assembly for vote for the October meeting.

Claudio Verani mentioned OVPR award deadlines will be coming out soon, The President's Arts and Humanities Support award with the deadline of October 16th does include the social sciences.

Note, that a change has been made on NSF forms to include additional monies received from other sources, this info will now need to be included in order to complete the form.

At the next meeting, Claudio will update and report on UROP.

Dean's Report:

Steffi mentioned that Sara Kacin will be presenting to the department chairs services that OTL is offering to assist faculty and staff that are having difficulty in the classroom and is there to help all to cope during these times. The dean encouraged the faculty to use the OTL.

Budget issues are still being discussed and the AAUP gave a financial analysis to the BoG, and the debt was at \$26 million and is now at \$32 million. It was mentioned that borrowing against the debt would be beneficial, along with using unrestricted funds. If, unrestricted funds are used the university will only be solvent for 144 days. The BoG has not approved the budget, therefore, no layoffs at this time, until approved.

Steffi mentioned that the department visits going well. There is a COVID cluster on campus of about 15 students. Flu shots are required for being on campus. Also, that travel restrictions for faculty still apply.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 am.