

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

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Dietrich School Council Minutes of the December 16, 2016 Meeting

In Attendance: N. John Cooper (Chair), Reid Andrews, Daniel Berowitz, Kathleen Blee, Sabine von Dirke, Brandon Fawcett, Josh Hanley, Jeffrey Hildebrand, Lina Insana, Sung Kyu Jung, Jim Knapp, Adam Leibovich, Charles Lwanga, Jeffery Newman, Michael Rerick, Christel Temple, John Twyning, Katherine Wolfe

Not in Attendance: Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski, Michele Colvard, Sam Donovan, Michael Goodhart, Jesscia Hatherill, Milica Hayden, Adriana Helbig

1. Minutes of the Dietrich School Council meeting held on October 21, 2016

The minutes for the meeting held on October 21, 2016 were reviewed. The minutes were moved, seconded, and approved with no changes required.

2. Dean's Report (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper highlighted several achievements by Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences faculty, past and present. These achievements include:

- Marcia Landy | Distinguished Professor Emerita – Awarded honorary doctorate from Stockholm University, for her outstanding contributions to the humanities
- Nicholas Rescher | Distinguished University Professor – Awarded the Helmholtz Award, the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities highest scholarly award, for his lifetime contributions to Philosophy
- Bruce Hapke | Professor Emeritus, Planetary Geology – His 2001 paper, “Space Weathering from Mercury to the Asteroid Belt”, has been recognized as one of the 25 most influential papers published in the last 25 years by the Journal of Geophysical Research
- Kenneth Jordan | Richard King Mellon Professor, Distinguished Professor – Dr. Jordan was a member of an international team that obtained snapshots of the process by which a proton is relayed from one water molecule to the next

- Melissa-Evelyn Libertus, Rebecca B. Price, Ming-Te Wang – Three Pitt professors (Departments of Psychology & Psychiatry) have been awarded the Association for Psychological Science’s “Rising Star” designation for 2016.

3. Report from Called Faculty Meeting held on November 17, 2016 (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reported to the Council on the outcome of the Called Faculty Meeting in November. The meeting was called at the request of the Undergraduate Council of the Dietrich School to consider a motion to amend the General Education Requirements (GERs). The meeting was announced to all voting faculty, and a number of amendments were proposed and circulated to all voting faculty in advance of the meeting. An account of the actions of the meeting has been circulated to the voting faculty as Issue x of the Dietrich School Gazette, and the outcome was adoption of modified General Education Requirements; adoption of the new GERs at the Called Faculty Meeting is the beginning of updating the GERs, and Undergraduate Council will now begin mapping courses onto certain requirements and will target implementation for the class entering the university in the fall of 2018. Students who are enrolled prior to fall 2018 will have a choice of fulfilling their requirements via the old system or the new system.

4. Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Associate Dean John Twyning)

Due to the cancellation of the November 18 Council Meeting, Dean Twyning provided the committee with updates from two Dietrich School Undergraduate Council meetings.

November 4, 2016

Dean Twyning presented the amendments that were submitted to the General Education Requirements, submitted by faculty and the Student Government Board. Undergraduate Council (UC) discussed and consolidated these amendments.

The UC also approved an existing course to fulfill General Education Requirements.

December 2, 2016

The first order of business for the UC was to select the recipient of the 2017 Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. The honor was bestowed on Mark Kemp, of the English Department.

The remainder of the meeting was dedicated to curriculum matters (all approved): the Russian and Anthropology majors were revised; the Slavic Studies major was retired. Minors in Polish and Bosnian-Croatian-Serbian were created. Lastly, existing courses to fulfill General Education Requirements were approved.

5. Report from Dietrich School Graduate Council (Associate Dean Kathleen Blee)

Due to the cancellation of the November 18 Council Meeting, Dean Blee provided the committee with updates from two Dietrich School Graduate Council meetings.

November 4, 2016

During this meeting, it was announced that the Provost's Office approved the proposal to lift the suspension of admissions to the graduate program in Classics. This will allow a small cohort of PhD students to work within the existing Classics, Philosophy, and Ancient Sciences area of concentration. Admissions into this area of concentration may begin as early as fall 2018.

Also discussed at this meeting was the creation of the new position of Ombudsperson in the office of Graduate Studies. The Ombudsperson will provide mediation to informally resolve conflicts unresolved departmental-level conflicts between graduate students and their departments.

Lastly, the Graduate Council was updated on the changes to the master's degree programs to meet the 30-credit minimum required by the state.

December 6, 2016

The Council considered a proposal by the Intelligent Systems Program, an interdisciplinary PhD program, to join the new School of Computing and Information. This proposal was approved by Council.

Council also considered a proposal from the interdisciplinary program in Film Studies to change the name of the program to Film and Media Studies Program.

The program's leadership felt that the new program title better captured the content covered in the program. This proposal was approved by Council.

Lastly, Council discussed a draft of new questions that they wanted included in the OMET student evaluation of teaching survey.

6. Nomination of Associate Dean Twyning for a new term as Associate Dean, 2017-2020 (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper initiated a discussion regarding Dean Twyning's nomination for a new term as Associate Dean and pointed to Dean Twyning's achievements as Associate Dean, and also pointed out that continuity would be valuable with both he and Dean Knapp stepping down. The Council feedback regarding Dean Twyning's leadership was very positive, and the nomination was approved for a three-year term.

7. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Faculty Research Grants 2017-18 Competition

The Faculty Grants Committee announces that support will once again be available in fiscal year 2017-2018 for Dietrich School faculty research projects in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, including proposals of an inter-disciplinary nature.

The application deadline is **Friday, January 27, 2017**, though the Committee would appreciate having applications as soon as possible.

Individual grants will be made in two categories:

Type I. Third Term Research Stipends of \$4,000 for research activities in lieu of teaching. The purpose of this type of grant is to enable faculty members to be free from teaching duties during the Third Term in order to work full time on research projects.

Type II. Research Expense Grants in support of specific project expenses such as microfilming, research materials, travel to libraries and other sources of information and clerical

assistance. Actual expenses from \$100 to \$3,500 will be considered. Full funding, even for successful proposals, cannot be guaranteed.

Eligibility is limited to tenure-stream or tenured Dietrich School faculty on the Oakland campus. Restrictions regarding eligibility for Type I and Type II funding are specified later in this announcement. Please read these carefully.

Applications for both types of grants must be received by the Committee Chair by Friday, January 27, 2017. **No late proposals will be accepted.** All applicants will receive confirmation that their application has been received. For Type II grants, no funds can be disbursed until July 1, 2017; however, the research projects of grant recipients may begin before that date. For Type I grants, stipends will be included with July 31, 2017 paychecks unless funds become available which may allow the stipends to be included in May and/or June salaries. Awards will be announced in the beginning of April. Unfortunately, this Committee cannot provide applicants with individual evaluations of proposals.

Application Format and Restrictions are explained in the following paragraphs of this announcement. Further information can be obtained from the Committee Chair, Eric Moe (emoe@pitt.edu)

ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Please follow these directions carefully!

TYPE I.

THIRD TERM RESEARCH STIPENDS OF \$4,000

To be eligible for a Type I stipend the applicant must not be employed during the Third Term in any way which makes it impossible to devote maximum time to research. Priority is given to faculty in the lower ranks and to those who have not previously received such a grant. Research projects for which funds are generally available from other sources will receive low priority.

Application Format: The application consists of four parts: (1) A cover sheet and current CV (no more than 5 pages, if possible), including mention of all previous grants with amount and year; (2) an abstract summarizing the proposal in simple terms; (3) the proposal itself. No application will be accepted unless it contains a current CV.

1. The cover sheet should be appended to a current CV and include the following information in the order listed here: (A) name of applicant, (B) faculty rank, (C) department, (D) university mailing address and extension, (E) applications pending or funding expected for the same period or the same research, (F) type of grant (I or II), and (G) title of research

project. Please indicate previous funding, both internal and external.

Faculty members who have received a Dietrich School grant within the last five years should also submit a brief (one to two paragraphs) statement describing the results of the project(s) funded.

2. The abstract (100-200 words) should summarize the proposal in simple terms.

3. The proposal should be written in such a manner that members of the Committee who are not experts in your field can understand your proposal. Technical jargon should be avoided.

Applicants are encouraged to bear in mind that the evaluators represent a wide range of disciplines in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences. The proposal should contain:

- (A) a statement of the problem;
- (B) the objectives and expected significance of the research;
- (C) if applicable to your field, the relationship of the research to the present state of knowledge in the field (with appropriate bibliographic references), a description of your own related previous work or, for applicants in writing or the arts, representative samples of your work; and
- (D) methods or procedure (how you expect to reach the stated objectives) and, if applicable, a description of data collection techniques and analysis.

The proposal itself should be limited to **six double-spaced pages including bibliographic references**. No offprints, photocopies, tapes or other examples of previous work should be enclosed.

Proposals that do not follow this format will not be reviewed.

Submission: The entire application packet should be submitted via email to the Committee Chair, Eric Moe – emoe@pitt.edu. You will receive an email confirmation when your proposal has been received.

TYPE I. RESTRICTIONS

Faculty members who have contractual obligations, including cash advances for writing, or those engaged in traditionally compensated Third Term (summer) teaching or administrative assignments, or with any other University or sponsored research summer salary support, are not eligible for these grants. Any grants allocated by the committee to faculty subsequently found to be ineligible will be cancelled.

Grants are not given for projects known to be lucrative commercial ventures, dissertation research, or curriculum development.

TYPE II. RESEARCH EXPENSE GRANTS

Type II grants are given to cover specific research project expenses for which other sources of funding are not available. Priority is given to faculty in the lower ranks and to new research projects; however, well-justified expenses for successful projects in the later stages of development are also considered.

Application Format: The application format for a Type II grant is the same as for a Type I grant, with the addition of a detailed budget.

The Budget: On a separate page, the project expenses should be itemized and justified in reasonable detail. Travel expenses should be explained in detail; transportation costs will be limited to coach class airfare. Applicants should submit the most recent airfare quotes from one of the University-designated travel agencies.

Submission: The entire application packet should be submitted via email to the Committee Chair, Eric Moe – emoe@pitt.edu. You will receive an email confirmation when your proposal has been received.

TYPE II. RESTRICTIONS

Type II grants are not given for:

- travel for the purpose of attending conferences or symposia
- projects known to be lucrative commercial ventures
- dissertation research
- curriculum development
- travel for purposes of research that is otherwise funded
- materials or equipment which can be borrowed or are readily available locally
- typing of manuscripts

Library materials acquired under a grant are to be deposited in the University library when they are no longer needed for the project.

The University of Pittsburgh is an affirmative action, equal opportunity institution.