

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

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**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Planning and Budgeting Committee
Minutes from the February 25, 2015 Meeting**

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twynning, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Kathleen Blee, Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Colvard, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Senior Administrative Officer Jessica Hatherill, Professors Daniel Balderston, Carol Colby, Scott Morgenstern, Luca Rigotti, Nathaniel Rosi, and Anne Weis, Lecturers Tony Bledsoe, Svitlana Maksymenko, and Jeffrey Oaks, Staff Representatives Linda Howard and Mat Romick, and Graduate Student Representatives Christiana Harkulich and Jeremy Harris (in place of Scott Zimmerman)

Not in Attendance: Associate Dean of the College of General Studies Cristina Ruggiero, Associate Dean for Administration Dick Howe, Assistant Dean for Business Barbara Vattimo, Staff Representative Karen Lillis, and Graduate Student Representative Scott Zimmerman

1. Minutes of the meeting held on November 24, 2014

Dean Cooper presented a draft of the minutes of the meeting held on November 24, 2014. The minutes were moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

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

The Dean reported that Mark Collins (Lecturer, Geology and Planetary Science) received the 2015 Ampco-Pittsburgh Award for Excellence in Advising. Professor Sandra Mitchell (History and Philosophy of Science) was elected President of the Philosophy of Science Association, where she will serve as Vice President and then President Elect. Professor Lara Putnam (History) was elected Vice President/President Elect of the Conference on Latin American History (CLAH) of the American

Historical Association. Distinguished Professor Robert Brandom (Philosophy) won a 2015 Anneliese Maier Research Award presented by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Distinguished University Professor Peter Wipf (Chemistry) received the Humboldt Research Award. Professor Paul Floreancig (Chemistry) and Lecturer Michael Glass (Urban Studies) are recipients of the 2015 Tina and David Bellet Teaching Excellence Award.

3. Update on University Strategic Planning Process and Strategic Priorities (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reminded the Committee that the strategic planning document will not take place this year, per the memo from the Provost on December 8, 2014. The School will provide an end-of-year report to include SERU data and other related information. Additional information following the Environmental Scan meetings hosted by David DeJong has not yet been received, but it is likely to be discussed at the next executive session of the Board of Trustees meeting on Friday, February 27, 2015, or disclosed at a public session.

4. Discussion of Strategic Priorities for the Capital Campaign (Dean N. John Cooper)

The Dean informed the Committee that the Provost is encouraging us to begin thinking about the next Capital Campaign, which will focus on a limited number of high impact themes. Themes must communicate effectively and stimulate thought, build on strengths, make the whole better than the sum of its parts, and be valid both now and in the future. Discussions on strategic priorities and high impact themes tend to focus on topical, somewhat empirical concepts, such as sustainability, the brain, nanoscience, and climate change. As a school of arts and sciences, we are interested in blending empirically-based concepts with broader theoretical and foundational topics that will excite a different type of donor. Ideas might range from a center on the formalization of knowledge to an initiative on identity in a transnational age.

Council members discussed this topic, and came up with themes that included the nature of knowledge across disciplines; globalization and internationalism; human interactions across different institutions; the digitalization of human knowledge; speaking across the core disciplines; and narrating the past into the future. The Dean requested that members speak with their colleagues and seek out additional theme ideas—subsequent emails included suggestions for a focus on the impact of physical topography on development of cultural and political structures, and a comment on the absence of a focus on “creativity” in the conversation; possible topics that could span the arts, the sciences, and the social sciences might be “Creativity in the Information Age” or “The History of the Imagination.”

5. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Council
Minutes from the March 2, 2015 Meeting**

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp (Vice Chair), Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Kathleen Blee, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Colvard, Senior Administrative Officer Jessica Hatherill, Professors Daniel Balderston, David Bartholomae, Don Bialostosky, Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski, Kay Brummond, Carol Colby, Michael Goodhart, and Kathleen Musante, Lecturer Katherine Wolfe, and Graduate Student Representatives David Bisaha and Jessica Walker

Not in Attendance: Professors Lisa Brush (on sabbatical), Jeffrey Newman, Lara Putnam, and Ivan Yotov, Lecturers Angela Athanas and Gretchen Bender.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 2015

Dean Cooper presented a draft of the minutes of the meeting held on January 13, 2015. The minutes were moved, seconded, and approved as amended.

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

The Dean reported that Distinguished Professor Robert Brandom (Philosophy) received a 2015 Anneliese Maier Research Award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Distinguished University Professor Peter Wipf (Chemistry) received a Humboldt Research Award. Professor Paul Floreancig (Chemistry) and Lecturer Michael Glass (Urban Studies) were both 2015 Tina and David Bellet Teaching Excellence Award winners. Assistant Professor Jill Millstone (Chemistry) received a Cottrell Scholar Award from the Research Corporation for Science Advancement.

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

Associate Dean Twyning reported that Undergraduate Council met on February 18, 2015.

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council elected to conduct a pilot program in the Fall 2015 term in which two or three select departments will be asked to list in their course syllabi which General Education Requirements the course fulfills. If successful, Undergraduate Council will propose that the practice be taken up school-wide.

The following existing courses were approved to fulfill General Education Requirements during the February 18, 2015 meeting:

HIST 1091 Global Health: Historical Perspectives
>Historical Change
>Foreign Culture / International - Global

ANTH 1548 Amazonian Arts: Making and Meaning
>Second course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression
>Foreign Culture / International – Regional
>Non-Western Culture

ANTH 1708 Society, Culture, and Power in Post-Conquest Cities: Istanbul, Córdoba, and Granada
>Historical Change
>Foreign Culture / International - Comparative

The report was moved, seconded, and approved.

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

Associate Dean Kathleen Blee reported that the Dietrich School Graduate Council met on February 4, 2015. Council reviewed the new initiative of the Arts and Sciences Graduate Student Organization to feature “Graduate School 411,” a session for undergraduates to meet with graduate students to discuss graduate school and ask questions at the 2015 Grad Expo and the Three-Minute Thesis Competition hosted by Graduate Studies on February 25 for students who are admitted to candidacy to present their research in three minutes to a panel of faculty judges. Graduate Council approved reviews of TA/TF training in the Departments of Economics and Political Science, discussed ideas for the AY2016 Professional Socialization Workshops, and reviewed ideas for the new initiative on safety for graduate students in the field and abroad. Graduate Council also discussed the new requirement for child abuse clearance for graduate student employees. Graduate Studies will be meeting with all graduate administrators to discuss the implementation of this requirement. Associate Dean Blee will follow up with graduate administrators to ensure that they are following appropriate protocol.

The report was moved, seconded, and approved.

5. Report on Mentoring Proposal from Diversity Committee (Dean N. John Cooper)

An ad hoc committee was established last year to move diversity issues forward within the Dietrich School. The Committee is chaired by Associate Kathleen Blee and the Dean invited her to provide a report to Council.

Associate Dean Blee reported that the committee is addressing issues surrounding faculty diversity, that include recruiting, mentoring, and departmental climate; there is especial concern that mentoring practices and experiences may make it difficult to meet our diversity goals. The committee is looking at the mentoring experience from the point of view of current junior faculty and recently tenured Associate Professors. Three focus groups were convened and these discussions formed the basis of a detailed survey distributed to all Dietrich School untenured faculty beyond their first year. Survey results showed that faculty received formal mentoring, but their experience with and quality of mentoring was variable.

The committee is working on a series of ways to improve the mentoring experience at the department level. First, a training handbook is being created for department chairs, junior faculty mentees, and mentoring faculty, based on research results and survey results. Second, it is clear that a variety of types of mentors are needed, rather than a single mentor over an extended period of time; faculty also sometimes need mentors outside of their specific discipline. To facilitate that the committee plans to host a lunch for senior faculty to meet with junior faculty. Lastly, the committee strives to bolster the value of mentoring at the department level. They will encourage chairs to ask senior faculty in annual reviews about efforts to mentor more junior colleagues. Dean Cooper requested that Associate Dean Blee provide an update on the Diversity Committee at the next Council meeting.

6. Other Business

English Chair and Professor Don Bialostosky stated that members of the Humanities Council requested a discussion to change the honoraria policy. Associate Dean Blee informed Council that proposals are being reviewed on an ad hoc basis and that there is a need to establish guidelines for decision making. Dean Cooper stated that the draft honoraria policy will be discussed at the next Planning and Budgeting Committee meeting.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Council
Minutes from the April 3, 2015 Meeting**

In attendance: Kathleen Blee, Jerome Branche, Adam Brode, Jessica Isaac, Kristin Kanthak, Shane Redman, Linda Rinaman, Jackie Smith, Wil Upchurch, Ron Zboray

Not in Attendance: Susan Sesack, Andrew Zentner

1. Review of minutes from March 3, 2015

Minutes approved as submitted.

2. Responses by chairs to TA/TF training reports

The Council reviewed and voted to accept Sociology, Political Science, and Economics departments' responses to the TA/TF training review reports, with only minor changes. Council decided to follow up with reviewed departments a year later to assess how well changes are institutionalized.

3. Select departments for TA/TF training reviews in AY2016

The Council selected three departments for review next year. Associate Dean Blee will contact the chairs of these departments.

4. Discussion of TA/TF Mentors

Associate Dean Blee explained the TA/TF mentor program and Council discussed ideas to enhance the program, beginning in AY16.

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Undergraduate Council
Minutes from the April 15, 2015 Meeting**

In attendance: John Twynning (chair), Elizabeth Taylor (secretary), Frank Beatrous, Larry Glasco, Hannah Johnson, Gonzalo Lamana, Andrew Lotz, Brenton Malin, Valerie Oke, Burcu Savun, Werner Troesken, Brett Wells, Jessica Hatherill (ex officio)

Not attending: Rosemary Capo, Bitia Moghaddam, Ethan Baker, Emily (Alyse) Johnson, Alexandra Kajari, Simrath Randhawa, Sarah Weber

1. New Business

Existing courses approved to fulfill General Education Requirements

SOC 1317 Sociology of Literature
>Writing-intensive

SA 1370 Preparation and Practice in the Visual Arts
>Writing-intensive

ENGLIT 0646 Apocalypse
>Literature

ENGLIT 0540 Literature and Medicine
>Literature

ENGLIT 1010 Magical Nature before the Modern World
>Second Course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression

ENGLIT 0510 Making the Book
>Literature

ENGLIT 1412 Secret Pittsburgh
>Second Course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression

ENGLIT 1305 Great Books 1
>Second Course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression
>Foreign Culture/International – Regional

ENGLIT 1306 Great Books 2
>Second Course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression
>Foreign Culture/International – Regional

PS 1661 Game of Thrones and Political Theory
>Second Course in Literature, the Arts, or Creative Expression