

# School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

VOL. 42, NO. 6 March 11, 2011

## ARTS AND SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held Friday, December 10, 2010  
160 Thackeray Hall at 9:00 a.m.

**In attendance:** G. Reid Andrews (chair), Elizabeth Taylor (secretary), Paula Grabowski, Judy McConnaha, Neepa Majumdar, Reva Gorelick, Cody Weiss, Brian Slagle, Alexander Zimmerman

Not attending: Sourav Bhattacharya, Kirsten Fudeman, Bryan Hanks, Adriana Helbig, Susan Sesack, Anna Vainchtein, Jaime Levine

**Guest:** Beth Matway, Chair, College Writing Board

### 1. Minutes

Minutes from the meeting on December 2, 2010 were approved.

### 2. New Business

#### APPROVED NEW COURSES

**BIOSC 0805:** The Human Body – also granted the NS requirement

**LING 0289:** Intensive Hindi and Cultural Immersion

**MATH 1380:** Mathematical Biology

**RUSS 1780:** Stalinist Culture of the 1930's – also granted the 2nd Course, HIST, and Non-Western requirements

**WOMNST 0200:** Sex, Race, and Popular Culture – also granted the W and SOC requirements

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ARTS & SCIENCES COUNCIL

Held on Friday, January 14, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.  
In 910 Cathedral of Learning

**In attendance:** Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James F. Knapp, Associate Dean Nicole Constable, Associate Dean John Twyning, Senior Assistant Dean Michelle Amato, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha, Professors Kathleen Blee, Joseph Grabowski, Graham Hatfull, Deane Root, Suzanne Staggenborg and Paul Shepard and GSO Representative Emma Freeman

**Not attending:** Professors Jonathan Arac, David Birnbaum, Jerome Branche, Peter Karsten, Diane Litman, Randall Walsh and GSO Representative Katie Moriarty

### 1. Minutes of the Meeting held on December 13, 2010

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on December 13, 2010. Professor Joe Grabowski made a motion to approve the minutes. Professor Deane Root seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

### 2. Dean's Report

• Marcus Rediker, Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History, was featured on American History TV's Lectures in History series, at 8 p.m. and midnight Dec. 18 and 1 p.m. Dec. 19 on C-SPAN 3. Rediker's lecture on the slave trade and slave ships also will air on C-SPAN radio at 10 p.m. Dec. 18 and will be streamed on the Web and available to view Monday morning, Dec. 20, at <http://www.c-span.org/History/>.

• Terrance Hayes, Pitt Alumnus and current Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University, has been named a 2010 National Book Award winner for Lighthouse (Penguin, 2010), his fourth collection of poetry.

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**3. Update on the Budget** (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reported to Council that there were no significant changes in the Arts and Sciences Budget or the prospects for the University budget.

**4. Report from Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council** (Associate Dean John Twyning)

Associate Dean John Twyning reported that the Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Council has not met. He showed his appreciation for the support he received. He thanked Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha for all her help during his transition into the new position as Associate Dean.

**5. Report from Arts and Sciences Graduate Council** (Associate Dean Nicole Constable)

Associate Dean Nicole Constable reported that the Arts and Sciences Graduate Council has not met. They are continuing to schedule TA reviews for spring.

**6. Set dates and agenda items for Full Faculty meeting** (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper presented three possible dates and times for the spring Full Faculty Meeting. Council decided that the Full Faculty Meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 23, 2011, and approved the proposed agenda with one item added.

**7. Other Business**

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 2:11 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
A&S Planning and Budgeting Committee**

Held on Monday, January 10, 2011 at 1:00 p.m.  
In 910 Cathedral of Learning

**ATTENDING:** Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Associate Dean W. Richard Howe, Associate Dean Nicole Constable, Associate Dean John Twyning, Associate Dean Kelly Otter, Senior Assistant Dean Michelle Amato, Assistant Dean Barbara Vattimo, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha, Director of Communications Carol

Mullen, Professors Jerome Branche, James Cassing, Linda Jen-Jacobson, Randall Walsh and Stephen Weber and Staff Representative Elizabeth Conforti

**NOT ATTENDING:** Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Professor Susan Harris Smith and Student Representatives Julia Bursten, Racheal Forlow, and Megan Julian

**1. Minutes of the meeting held on November 22, 2010**

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on November 22, 2010. Professor Stephen Weber moved that the minutes be accepted. Associate Dean John Twyning seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**2. Dean's Report**

- Ted Newman, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Physics & Astronomy, was recently awarded the American Physical Society's Einstein Prize for a lifetime of work in the field of relativity.

- Marcus Rediker, Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History, was featured on American History TV's Lectures in History series, at 8 p.m. and midnight Dec. 18 and 1 p.m. Dec. 19 on C-SPAN 3. Rediker's lecture on the slave trade and slave ships also will air on C-SPAN radio at 10 p.m. Dec. 18 and will be streamed on the Web and available to view Monday morning, Dec. 20, at <http://www.c-span.org/History/>.

- Terrance Hayes, Pitt Alumnus and current Professor of English at Carnegie Mellon University, has been named a 2010 National Book Award winner for *Lighthouse* (Penguin, 2010), his fourth collection of poetry.

**3. Report on the Budget** (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reported that there were no significant changes in the budget. The Commonwealth allocation to the University for FY 2012 is unknown at this time but the fiscal status of the Commonwealth is not good and the allocation is likely to be reduced. Dean Cooper answered questions regarding when the budget is released to the University, the quarterly payout system, and the mechanics of midyear rescissions.

**4. Review of Planning Document Introductory Material** (Dean N. John Cooper)

The Committee reviewed the planning document introductory material revised by Dean Cooper. Dean Cooper discussed this material, stating what changes were made and what changes still need to be made. The Committee was in consensus with the changes made to the Introduction. Dean Cooper reviewed the Mission statement, Vision statement and Strategic Priorities for Change. Adjustments to Strategic Priorities for Change will be made late in the process when substantive sections have been agreed

**5. International Plan** (Dean N. John Cooper)

The International Plan was reviewed by Dean Cooper. He summarized the eight planning areas. The Deans will be looking over these areas in the next few weeks. Our goal will be to incorporate responses to mandates under the International Plan in appropriate sections as presented to future PBC meetings.

**6. Other Business**

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

**Minutes of the Meeting of  
A&S Planning and Budgeting Committee**  
Held on Wednesday, February 2, 2011 at 2:00 p.m.  
In 910 Cathedral of Learning

**ATTENDING:** Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean Nicole Constable, Associate Dean John Twyning, Associate Dean Kelly Otter, Senior Assistant Dean Michelle Amato, Assistant Dean Barbara Vattimo, Professor Jerome Branche, and Staff Representatives Elizabeth Conforti and Georgia Spears

**NOT ATTENDING:** Associate Dean W. Richard Howe, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConaha, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Professors James Cassing, Linda Jen-Jacobson, Susan Harris Smith, Randall Walsh and Stephen Weber and Student Representatives Julia Bursten, Racheal Forlow, and Megan Julian

**1. Minutes of the meeting held on January 10, 2011**

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on January 10, 2011. Associate Dean John Twyning moved that the minutes be accepted. Staff Representative Elizabeth

Conforti seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

**2. Dean’s Report**

- Ronald Linden, Professor in the Department of Political Science, was recently named director of Pitt’s European Studies Center and European Center of Excellence.
- Nancy Condee, Associate Professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures and Director of Graduate Studies has been named the inaugural director of Pitt’s Global Studies Center.

**3. Report on the Budget** (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reported that the Governor is expected to propose a budget by March 1, 2011. The legislature will review the budget and is legally required to adopt a budget by July 1. A reduced appropriation is possible, and in practice the appropriation may not be determined until December. In response to questions he said that he did anticipate a hiring freeze.

**4. Draft of Planning Document section on graduate education** (Associate Dean Nicole Constable)

The Committee reviewed the planning document section on graduate education drafted by Associate Dean Nicole Constable. She discussed the material and answered questions regarding the Discover Oracle database from which the graduate data is derived. Dean Cooper commented on the success stories regarding graduate recruitment originating from Department Chairs. Associate Dean Nicole Constable elaborated on the Dissertation Bootcamp and its relationships to the Writing Center. Associate Dean Nicole Constable moved that the Planning Document graduate section be accepted. Professor Jerome Branche seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**5. Draft of Planning Document section on voluntary support** (Dean N. John Cooper)

The Committee reviewed the planning document section on voluntary support drafted by Dean Cooper. He discussed the material and Associate Dean John Twyning commented on the effectiveness and potential of the new alumni relations effort. Staff Representative Elizabeth Conforti shared her positive experience working with alumni relations. Associate

Dean Nicole Constable made a comment regarding where we are ranked with regard to donations and endowments. Associate Dean Nicole Constable moved that the voluntary support section be accepted and it was unanimously approved.

## 6. Other Business

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

### Minutes of the Meeting of A&S Planning and Budgeting Committee

Held on Friday, February 11, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

In 910 Cathedral of Learning

**ATTENDING:** Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean W. Richard Howe, Associate Dean Nicole Constable, Associate Dean John Twyning, Associate Dean Kelly Otter, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha, Senior Assistant Dean Michelle Amato, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Professor James Cassing and Staff Representatives Elizabeth Conforti and Georgia Spears

**NOT ATTENDING:** Assistant Dean Barbara Vattimo, Professors Jerome Branche, Linda Jen-Jacobson, Susan Harris Smith, Randall Walsh and Stephen Weber and Student Representatives Julia Bursten and Megan Julian

#### 1. Minutes of the meeting held on February 2, 2011

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on February 2, 2011. Associate Dean John Twyning moved that the minutes be accepted. Staff Representative Georgia Spears seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

#### 2. Dean's Report

Dean Cooper reported that there is no update to the Dean's report.

#### 3. Report on the Budget (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper reported that there is no update on the budget.

#### 4. Review of facilities section of Planning Document (Dean N. John Cooper)

The Committee reviewed the facilities sections of the Planning Document drafted by Dean Cooper. He discussed the material and the Committee was satisfied with the content. Associate Dean John Twyning moved that the Planning Document facilities section be accepted. Staff Representative Elizabeth Conforti seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

#### 5. Review of material covering the College of General Studies that will appear in the assessment, budget, and undergraduate sections (Associate Dean Kelly Otter)

The Committee reviewed the planning document section covering the College of General Studies drafted by Associate Dean Kelly Otter. She discussed the material. Dean Cooper commented on the material. Staff Representative Elizabeth Conforti made a suggestion with regard to the post-baccalaureate pre-medicine program to input "certificate", if indeed it is a certificate program. Dean Cooper reviewed the CGS Sources and Uses Chart, explaining the different entities and expenditures. Associate Dean Kelly Otter answered questions regarding Graduate programs and discussion pursued about the school admissions rate, the use of unused funds, and the budget for the upcoming year (FY 2011). Associate Dean John Twyning moved that the planning document section covering the College of General Studies be accepted and it was unanimously approved.

## 6. Other Business

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.