

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Council Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2025
3:00-4:30 pm
910 CL Conference Room

MINUTES

Council Members present: Dean Adam Leibovich (Chair), Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Jonathan Woon (Vice Chair); Elected Members: Brian Stewart, Caro Pirri, Chiara Montera, Drew Armstrong, Jennifer Waldron, José Cheibub, Liann Tsoukas, Russell Clark, and Satish Iyengar; Divisional Chair Representatives: Adam Shear and Yu Cheng; Dietrich School GSO Representatives: Laura Beghini Chelidonopoulos

Council Members not present: Elected Members: Jon Johnson, Laura Lovett, and Robin Brooks; Divisional Chair Representatives: Margaret Judd; Dietrich School SGB Representatives: Mercy Akanmu and Sophia Chebli

Dean's Office Personnel present: Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Todd Reeser, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig, Executive Director of Administration Jessica Hatherill, Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies and the College of General Studies Derek Fischer, Director of Executive Operations Maryellen Gannon, Administrative Coordinator Emma Wallace-Potts

Dean's Office Personnel not present: Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Recruitment Hannah Johnson, Associate Dean for Equity, Faculty Development, and Community Engagement Natasha Tokowicz

Minutes

Dean Leibovich welcomed the Council members and thanked them for attending.

1. Dean's Report (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich reviewed the Dean's Report distributed before the meeting. No additions or changes were made by Council.

January 2025 – Part I

Dean's Report

- Joy Priest - Department of English - received an Advancing Black Arts in Pittsburgh award from The Pittsburgh Foundation to support an anthology of poems, "The Black Outside," elevating themes of Black ecology, the Great Migration, Black desire and Black addiction, and a collection of essays on Black surrealism and poetic craft
- Aaron Henderson – Department of Studio Arts – selected as the Artist in Residence for the Beaver County Marcellus Awareness Community (BCMAC)
- Barbara Weissberger – Department of Studio Arts – residency at the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA)
- Jeanne Marie Laskas and Erin Anderson - Department of English – their "Cement City" podcast was named one of the 10

best podcasts of 2024 by the *New York Times*.

- Diana Nguyen – Department of English – her book *Root Fractures* was named one of the top 100 must-read books of 2024 by *Time*.
- Kirk Savage – Department of History of Art and Architecture – received an award from the Mellon Foundation for the Reparative Histories of Art and Architecture project.
- Zachary Horton – Department of English – was featured in the article “The Offline Joy of the Board Game Club” in the *New York Times* (12/19/24). Zachary was also interviewed by CBS News about board games.
- Tao Han – Department of Physics and Astronomy – received the Humbolt Research Award from the Alexander von Humbolt Foundation, Germany.

2. Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig)

Attachment: 1-15-25 Dietrich School Undergraduate Council Report to Dietrich Council

Associate Dean Adriana Helbig presented the report.

The report was moved, seconded, and approved by Council.

**Dietrich School Undergraduate Council Report to Dietrich School Council
January 15, 2025**

December 4, 2024- DSAS Undergraduate Council Meeting

New business:

1. Courses to Meet General Education

Requirements:

a. ANTH 0700- Climate Change and Conservation: Lessons from the Global South proposed to meet the Social Science and Global Issues general education requirements.

a. Motion to approve as a Social Science gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

b. Motion to approve as a Global Issues gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

c. ANTH 0700 approved to meet the Social Science and Global Issues general education requirements.

b. ANTH 1529- African Archaeology proposed to meet the Geographic Region and the Cross-Cultural Awareness general education requirements.

a. Motion to approve as Geographic Region gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

b. Motion to approve as Cross-Cultural Awareness gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

c. ANTH 1529 approved to meet the Geographic Region and Cross-Cultural Awareness general education requirements.

c. ANTH 1561- Introduction to Archaeological Geophysics proposed to meet the Social Science and Natural Science general education requirements.

a. Motion to approve as Social Science gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

b. Motion to approve as Natural Science gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

c. ANTH 1561 approved to meet the Social Science and Natural Science general education requirements.

Other Business:

2. Associate Dean Helbig and Bill Lychack updated Undergraduate Council on the discussions with faculty regarding the Cross-Cultural Awareness Gen. Ed. Discussions which were held on November 18 and 19th via Zoom. A GoogleDoc will be shared with Undergraduate Council members so they can add their thoughts toward the continuing discussion.

3. Report on the College of General Studies (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig)

There is no report at this time.

4. Report from Dietrich School Graduate Council (Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Jonathan Woon)

Associate Dean Jonathan Woon presented the report.

The report was moved, seconded, and approved by Council.

December 11, 2024, Meeting

1. Associate Dean's Updates

New team of interns is preparing a new issue of the DS GAINS newsletter for December. Associate Dean Woon and

Assistant Dean Coutanche attended the annual meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools, where several plenaries and parallel sessions focused on equity in graduate education. Associate Dean Woon also attended the Baranger Graduate Student Teaching Award lunch organized by the GSO, recognizing Edison Hauptman (Mathematics), Rebecca McGregor (Psychology), Kale Doyen (History of Art and Architecture).

2. Assistant Dean's Updates

Assistant Dean Coutanche is having ongoing conversations with programs about their processes for annual student evaluations.

3. FACDEV 2200

Council welcomed a guest from the Center for Teaching and Learning to provide an overview and ask questions about the required course for graduate students teaching their own courses.

4. Discussion of TA/TF Review Response History and Philosophy of Science

Council discussed the responses submitted by the department and the response was accepted by unanimous consent.

5. Dietrich School Bylaws (Dean Leibovich and Executive Director for Administration Jessica Hatherill)

Current Version of the Bylaws:

<https://www.as.pitt.edu/faculty/governance/bylaws-kenneth-p-dietrich-school-arts-and-sciences>

Proposed Revision: DRAFT Dietrich
Bylaws 12.2024

Dean Leibovich introduced proposed revisions to bylaws. Executive Director Hatherill provided a summary of changes.

Discussion ensued and will continue at the next Dietrich Council meeting.

6. Election of the Faculty Grants Committee members (Dean Adam Leibovich)
Attachment: Faculty Grants Committee slate 2024-2025

Dean Leibovich briefly reviewed the election process for Faculty Grants Committee. A Qualtrics ballot will be sent out to collect votes following today's meeting.

7. Approve Spring Full Faculty Meeting (Dean Adam Leibovich)
 - . Thursday, March 20 - 11:00am
 - a. Monday, March 24 - 2:00pm

The Council majority ruled Monday, March 24 – 2:00pm as the Spring Full Faculty Meeting date.

8. Other Business

Council adjourned with no further business.