

College of Arts and Letters
Faculty Assembly
Minutes
October 08, 2018
AD 305; Davie LA 150; Jupiter HC 130

11:02

— Dr. William Trapani, Chair of Faculty Assembly, calls the meeting, proceeds to recognize members of the Assembly and, in keeping with tradition, opens the floor for Department Chairs to welcome and/or announce new faculty:

- Dr. Seely, from the Department of Sociology, announces hiring of Assistant Professors Dr. Carter Koppelman, Dr. Nik Summers, Dr. Will McConnell, Full Time Instructor Dr. Robert Caputi, and Visiting Instructor Dr. Stacy Salerno;
- Dr. Trapani, from the School of Communication and Media Studies, mentions hiring of Assistant Professors Dr. Nicole Morse, Dr. Christopher Maraffi, Visiting Instructors Dr. Olympia Kiriakou, and Prof. Andy Tinker.

— Chair Trapani requests nominations for faculty to serve as senators at the University's Faculty Senate; Dr. Barbara Ganson, from the Department of History, self-nominates.

— Chair Trapani proceeds to talk about strategic planning at the college level, invites faculty to start thinking about names of potential participants in the College's Strategic Planning Committee, and introduces Dean Horswell.

11:09

— Dr. Michael Horswell, Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, delivers the Dean's Report:

- Highlights that the College has been able to procure funding so as to commence repairs and upgrades (e.g., lighting, seats) to the University Theater;
- Informs that the College is working on creation of improved materials to better guide faculty deal with classroom disruptions, students in distress, and completion of incident reports, requesting faculty to notify Dr. Barrios every time said incident reports are filed;
- Announces that Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is scheduled to speak at the University Theater, Nov. 2, 2018, @ 6:30 p.m., encouraging faculty to attend;
- Describes goals of new Provost, namely: (1) To solve structural deficit associated with Summer term, noting that faculty should expect increased class offerings in Summer 2019, (2) To grow, support and generally encourage creation of auxiliary programs, (3) Increase class offerings and general amount of activity at the University's Davie campus;
- Talks about metrics, noting current work by the College's deanship on report soon to be delivered before the Executive Leadership Team;

When asked:

- About growth in Summer, i.e., what percentage growth should faculty expect for Summer 2019, notes that significant growth of at least ten percent is to be reasonably expected;

- About large enrollment courses in Summer, quality and rank of faculty teaching said classes, expresses agreement with idea/implied proposition that, “We should be using our best faculty” to teach said gateways courses;
- About loss of class-time (because of holidays) in Summer schedule, Dean Linda Johnson notes that second half of Summer is generally more flexible than other parts of Summer, suggesting constructive conversation with Registrar’s Office; Dean Bradford suggests getting senators from the College of Arts and Letters on the University Faculty Senate’s Academic Planning and Budget Committee, which votes on said calendars.

11:30

— Dr. Aimee Arias, Associate Dean of Research and Creative Achievement, College of Arts and Letters, reports on research and external funding, noting that the College has \$400,000 more this year than in the previous fiscal year, and encourages faculty to apply for university wide awards and other forms of internal funding.

11:32

— Dr. Adam Bradford, Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Letters, reports on graduate programs, underscores importance of faculty involvement in recruitment efforts, and informs of current work on creation of graduate programs for students willing to pay for tuition (non GTAs, subsidized model), e.g., program certificates.

11:37

— Chair Trapani introduces Dr. Victoria Brown, Assistant Provost of eLearning, who proceeds to:

- Inform Assembly that the State of Florida has launched a 2025 education plan, which estimates that, by said target AY, 70% of undergraduates will be taking a class online annually;
- Notes that Board of Governors supports growth of fully online offerings, which, at FAU, is currently at 25% of total courses offered, with institutional goal of increasing said percentage to 30-35% in near future;
- Announces availability of new eCertification Program, which is open to all faculty, including GTAs, encouraging all those non-certified to teach fully online to do pursue said certification;
- Lists various opportunities for professional development made available by the Center for eLearning (power point attached), reminds faculty of eDesign, which provides assistance with design of course delivered online;
- Announces availability of funding, through Affordable Curriculum Today, ACT, for courses delivered online that have reduced textbook costs;
- Reminds faculty of various services provided by the Center for eLearning, e.g., proctoring of exams, online computer lab, virtual communities of practice (please see power point for additional particulars).

When asked:

- About the type of commitment Unit Heads are making when a course goes fully online, notes that the Center for eLearning poses very few restrictions, and that agreement between said academic unit and said Center is notably flexible;

- About data reflecting student feedback and general satisfaction with fully online classes, responds that SPOTs are running well, 81% satisfaction rate, sometimes as high as 84%;
- * Dean Horswell here adds that the College has a fully online degree program, namely, Interdisciplinary Studies;
- About (possibility of) incorporation of Artificial Intelligence, AI, technology, answers, “No, we have not designed any robots.”

12:15

— Chair Trapani introduces Dr. Karen Leader, who proceeds to speak to the Assembly about the College’s Barbara Schmidt Fellowship:

- Informs that it is a year-long dual enrolment program, currently with 26 active high school students/participants (please see power point attached);
- Notes goal of creating Center for Civic Engagement within the College;
- Details ongoing success of the program made possible by said fellowship during its inaugural year, calling for faculty collaborators/associates.

12:26

— Chair Trapani introduces Dr. Bret Danilowicz, University Provost, who proceeds to:

- Inform Assembly that he is currently at work on budget for upcoming year, AY 2019-20, in close consultation with Jeff Attwater, Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and CFO, seeking share University revenue with its Colleges;
- Notes he is similarly seeking to decentralize power to the deans, where said decentralization would mean more discretion at the Dean’s level on budgetary issues;
- Adds that he is seeking to increase and improve coordination in Jupiter and Davie campuses.

When asked:

- About Summer and pent up demand, says such demand does appear to exist, citing, by way of example, increase in number of students enrolled in Jumpstart, from approximately 700 in AY 2017-18 to over 1,000 in AY 2018-19;
- About revenue sharing and possibility of modifying teaching assignments, so as to teach in Summer, replies, “I have not worked at an institution where that [teaching in Summer, instead of Fall/Spring] was the case,” noting he is open to the possibility, provided feasibility.

12:41

— Chair Trapani introduces Brian McConnell, College liaison between the College and the University’s Office of Undergraduate Research, OURI, who proceeds to:

- Provides an overview of OURI and collaboration between the College and said Office (please see power point attached);
- Introduces Caralin Branscum, peer mentor for the College of Arts and Letters at OURI, who further shares successes and opportunities made possible by said collaboration.

12:55

—Chair Trapani thanks speakers, and opens floor for the good of the Assembly:

- Dr. Simon Glynn, from the Department of Philosophy, distributes and encourages Assembly to read personal statement on what he perceives as declining academic rigor and overall performance on the part of the student body.

12:57

— Meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Mauricio J. Almonte, Secretary, Faculty Assembly, Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters

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Guest Sign-in Sheet
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Department	Name	Signature
Theatre & Dance	K. APRIL SOROKO	K. Soroko
HISTORY	Barbara Ganson	Barbara Ganson
HISTORY	ERIC HANNO	Eric Hanno
Sociology	Will R. McInnell	Will R. McInnell
Sociology	Lotus Sealey	Lotus Sealey
Political Science	Quinette Labacco	Quinette Labacco
Anthropology	Meredith Ellis	Meredith Ellis
II	Harris	Harris
LINGUISTICS, LING	ERRO PERAZZA	Erro Perazza
Dean's Office	Adam Bradford	Adam Bradford
II	Michael Horswell	Michael Horswell
Visual Arts & Art History	Brian E. McInnell	Brian E. McInnell
Dean's Office	LINDA JOHNSON	Linda Johnson

