

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts & Letters, FAU
Faculty Assembly Minutes
March 29th, 2021 | 11:30 a.m. – 12:50 p.m.
WebEx Remote Meeting due to COVID-19 | 41 (Peak) Faculty Attended

11:30 a.m.

Welcome/Faculty Assembly Chair's Report/Consideration of Minutes

Mauricio Almonte - Faculty Assembly Chair

- Meeting called to order.
- Consideration of March 1st, 2021 minutes. *(Approved)*
- Guest speakers in attendance will present first.

11:33 a.m.

Guest Speakers

Dr. Ed Pratt & Dr. Anthony Ambrosio

- Discussing clusters for IFP.
- Banner should now be up-to-date for students to find clusters.
- Thematic clustered and more courses from different IFP areas are welcome.
- Received requirement for a DEI in foundation areas and courses.
- 13 years ago IFP courses came into play. There was an agreement that the amount of courses stays low, or a smaller number of courses that are easier to assess. If there are to be new courses in the IFP, then perhaps older courses are phased out.

Questions & Comments

- Q: Is there a percentage of courses that can fit into the IFP overall?
- A: There are 80 courses in the IFP. If there are courses that haven't been offered in a while, again, perhaps they move them out of the IFP. All courses don't need to be survey courses.
- Q: Is there a move to centralize the IFP/core?
- A: The core curriculum committee probably won't take on all course management.
- Q: Do clusters need to be in each College or across Colleges?
- A: Students have to complete a number of courses in other colleges.
- Q: Should departments revisit low enrolled IFP? If low enrolled, then another course could be put in its place?
- A: IFP is interested in the university's interests and research goals.
- Q: Do students need to talk to advisors before changing majors?
- A: Yes, they need permission and proper advising to changing majors.
- Q: Are students dissuaded from changing majors if they need more credits than 120?
- A: The Provost would like to allow students change, as long as students understand the requirements for the new major and that graduating on time could be delayed slightly.

- Q: Is the CCC and UUPC supportive of a DEI certificate in the college?
- A: A DEI certificate hasn't been thought about. Thematic clusters might be a better avenue to take. Units need to think about what the goal is of the course in the IFP areas.

11:50 a.m.

Dean's Report

Michael Horswell, Ph.D. - Dean of Arts and Letters

- Sends appreciation to the committees that will be reporting today.
- Budget is still unknown for next year. However, it sounds optimistic. The economy is recovering a little faster. This means that the SUS could have less pressure. There is now a process to hire some replacement lines. The decision could be known in July 2021. This doesn't mean that every line could be replaced. But there's opportunity to justify our lines.
- Hopefully enrollments are up for summer and fall 2021.
- Update to Program Assessment Committee. The date is being collected and data should be provided soon to all programs across the College. Reports on this done should be done some time in April. This will be the first draft and it's updatable. This will help when arguing priorities for our replacement hires.
- P&T, SPE, and Third Year Reviews have been completed for the College.

Questions & Comments

- Q: Is there an update for early retirement?
- A: The last deadline has passed. Some faculty has come forward totaling about 14. Most will retire after fall and a couple in summer.

11:50 a.m.

Faculty Assembly Chair's Report Continued and Business Items

Mauricio Almonte - Faculty Assembly Chair

- i Election of UFS Senator positions allotted to the College of Arts and Letters

- For AY 2021-23: (8)
 - 1 Nomination(s): *Meredith Ellis*
 - 2 Nomination(s): *Stacie Rossow*
 - 3 Nomination(s): *Chris Robé*
 - 4 Nomination(s): *Michael Harris*
 - 5 Nomination(s): *Brian McConnell*
 - 6 Nomination(s): *William Trapani*
 - 7 Nomination(s): *Stacie Balkan*
 - 8 Nomination(s): *Nicole Morse*
- For 2021-22, as one-year replacement for Barbara Ganson: (1)
 - 1 Nomination: *Mauricio Almonte*

- ii Officers of the Faculty Assembly, AY 2021-22: (3)
 - Nomination(s) for Chair: *Shane Eason*
 - Nomination(s) for Vice Chair: *Ian McDonald*
 - Nomination(s) for Secretary: _____
- iii Steering Committee Members, AY 2021-22: (6)
 - Chair (*above*)
 - Vice Chair (*above*)
 - Secretary (*above*)
 - Nomination(s) for One at large member: *Ilene Prusher*
 - Nomination(s) for One at large member from partner campuses: _____
 - Nomination for One member who serves on UFS, chosen by College members of the UFS: *Meredith Ellis*

All nominees elected by acclamation.

12:15 a.m.

Annual Reports from Standing Committees

Dr. Christopher Robé, Chair, Promotion and Tenure Committee (P&T)

- Thanks all the committee members for their service. 3 fulls, 5 associates, 6 third year reviews. One issue is that there were external letters that were a little “too friendly.” When doing self-evaluation, make sure the trajectory is clear and how the past and present feeds future research. There needs to be some changes to the P&T documents. The committee will meet and consider updates. There needs to be more uniformity when submitting online to Interfolio. Junior faculty engaged in too much service work.

Questions & Comments

- Q: How will service impact junior and senior faculty after retirements?
- A: The Dean’s office will advocate for the replacement lines.

Dr. Stephen Charbonneau, Chair, Graduate Programs Committee (GPC)

- Thanks all the GPC committee members. Overall two new programs were approved. Also different program changes were made to grow current programs. Some new courses were approved. There is a need for larger stipends for GA/GTA/RA. Recruitment is also an issue for the programs.

Dr. Courtney Jones, Chair, Committee on Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

- Thanks all the committee members. Committee was created in the fall and is now a standing committee. Members of the committee meet once a month. The goal is to enhance cohesion of diversity and inclusion and best practices for searches. Mentorships are one program to assist junior faculty members that have been with the College three years or less. We understand that there is a service burden. So, there will be fellowships offered consisting of a release from teaching. This would be for junior faculty in research.

Questions & Comments

Q: Where are we in terms of diversity numbers?

A: A survey will be produced to send to the faculty. It's currently being developed. Hopefully we could have the data available for the next meeting.

Dr. Patricia Kollander, Chair, Non-Tenure Track Committee (NTT)

- 8 applicants to NTT. All passed the committee and have been sent up the line. The same issues are at stake when it comes to Interfolio. Departments need to address NTT guidelines are in concert with University's guidelines.

12:40 p.m.

For the Good of the College & Motion to Adjourn

Mauricio Almonte - Faculty Assembly Chair

- Encourages faculty to attend Senate. President Kelly will be in attendance.

Questions & Comments

- Q: Can we have an update on the College Initiative of the Americas? Is there a list of events?
- A: This could perhaps be presented at the next meeting. The Dean has not received a report, yet. This area got a boost and there should be a lot coming out of it.
- Q: Is there more participation at FA because of WebEx?
- A: We try to meet the same day of Faculty Senate.
- Q: What's the situation for theaters and concerts?
- A: We're anxious to get them all back open.

DFSCAL FA Minutes recorded/submitted by:

Prof. S. C. Eason, Secretary

Dorothy F. Schmidt College of Arts and Letters, Florida Atlantic University