
Absent (Excused): Björn Anderson, Linda Bolton, Armando Duarte, Melissa Duff, Sabine Götz, Julie Pacheco, Amy Poremba, Erica Prussing, Carrie Swanson, David Wittenberg

Absent: Amber Brian, Elena Gavruseva, Kenneth Gayley, Tlaloc Rivas, Wenfang Tang, Kasturi Varadarajan, Ion Bogdan Vasi

Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Frederick Boehmke, Barry Butler, Helena Dettmer, Maggie Jesse, Kevin Kregel

1. Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs & Curriculum, and the Humanities Helena Dettmer announced that the College has formed an ad hoc faculty committee to examine the creation of a general education requirement in diversity and inclusion. Jennifer Bertrand, Associate Director, CLAS Academic Programs and Student Development, requested that any faculty member willing to volunteer to be part of the platform party during the May 16 commencement ceremonies email her directly.

2. The minutes from January 28, 2015, were approved.

3. Executive Vice President and Provost Barry Butler visited with Faculty Assembly and reviewed TIER (Transparent, Inclusive Efficiency Review) progress. He stated that implementation is underway for a number of the business cases. Ad Astra Consultants is working to collect information in connection with two academic cases dealing with space utilization, while Pappas Consulting Group recently has been hired to analyze distance education and time to degree completion. Faculty and students will have opportunities to provide input to Pappas Consulting Group on these topics.

Provost Butler also discussed the role of non-tenure-track faculty. He said that UI colleges have different policies related to lecturers, and that the University operations manual should acknowledge this variability. The Faculty Senate has established a Lecturer Committee to examine issues related to lectures and review practices at other intuitions, as well as a group of Faculty Council members and Deans to discuss these issues. He noted that last year the CLAS Review Committee recommended that CLAS evaluate the proportion of lecturers in its faculty. Provost Butler also responded to questions from the floor.

4. Professors Frederick Boehmke and Rene Rocha, Department of Political Science, presented a proposal for an undergraduate certificate in Social Science Analytics, previously approved by the Undergraduate Educational Policy and Curriculum
Committee. The certificate is sponsored by the Departments of Geographical and Sustainability Sciences, Political Science, Sociology, and Statistics and Actuarial Science. The certificate requires 18 semester hours of coursework in four clusters: 1) core statistics sequence, 2) social science research design and data analysis, 3) building skills and data science, and 4) applied research experience. The certificate will provide students with the opportunity to receive interdisciplinary training on using data to address important social sciences research questions, and teach students how to approach the socio-political world using data-driven methods. The proposal was approved.

5. Maggie Jesse, Senior IT Director, ITS Office of Teaching, Learning & Technology (OTLT) discussed changes that have taken place since the consolidation of ITS Instructional Services, Evaluation and Examination Service, and the Center for Teaching into OTLT in June 2014. The goals of reorganization included improved coordination of pedagogical and instructional technology support, increased support for the Center for Teaching, and improved Evaluation and Examination Service offerings and processes. She noted that The University of Iowa has become a founding member of Unizin (http://unizin.org), a consortium of universities coming together in a strategic way to exert greater control and influence over the digital learning landscape. As part of Unizin, UI will be participating in pilots of Canvas learning management system in 2015-2016. She also briefly reviewed outcomes of the Assessing the Classroom Environment (ACE) online pilot conducted in selected classes in fall 2014.

6. Professor Bob Cook, School of Music, Chair of the FA subcommittee on the Role and Status of Lecturers, reported that the subcommittee met with Anne Stapleton, Lecturer in the Department of English, Chair of the Faculty Senate Lecturer Committee, and Matt Gilchrist, Lecturer in the Department of Rhetoric and member of the CLAS Strategic Planning Committee. The FA subcommittee is concerned about the lack of representation of lecturers in collegiate governance, as well as issues of compensation, access to professional development resources, lack of clarity in policies, and implementation of the Senior Lecturer rank. The subcommittee will discuss possible changes to the CLAS Manual of Procedure (MOP) regarding the status of lecturers, and plans to submit a proposal for MOP changes to Faculty Assembly in an upcoming meeting.

7. Professor Linda Louko, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, member of the FA Diversity Committee announced that the Diversity Committee is seeking feedback regarding the structure of committee itself: whether it should be a Faculty Assembly committee as it is now, whether it should be a collegiate committee, or both.

8. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Professor Russell Ganim, Division of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures Secretary of the Faculty Assembly