

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Assembly

DRAFT
Minutes
December 4, 2019

Present: Lori Adams, Alicia Ambler, Art Borreca, Andrew Casto, Robert Cook, Monica Correia, Stephen Cummings, Matt Dannenberg, Steve Duck, Mohammad Farajzadeh-Tehrani, Anahita Ghazvinizadeh, Joyee Ghosh, Jennifer Haylett, Benjamin Hunnicutt, Ashley Jennings, Megan Knight, Mary Kosloski, Greg Landini, Andrew Lewis, Rachel McLaren, Elizabeth Menninga, Yannick Meurice, Bruce Nottingham-Spencer, Catriona Parratt, Ted Powers, David Puderbaugh, Mary Ann Rasmussen, Glenn Storey, Richard Turner, Travis Vogan, Michelle Voss, Frank Weirich, Katherine Wolfe, Xiaoyi Zhang

Absent (Excused): Anthony Arnone, Margaret Carrel, Aniruddha Dutta, Anna Malkova, Isaac Petersen, Anu Subramanian, Stephen Warren, Marc Wold

Absent: Eloy Barragán, Octav Chipara, Emilie Destruel Johnson, Tori Forbes, Sabine Gölz, Blaine Greteman, Will Jennings, Claudio Margulis, Luis Muñoz, Maggy Tomova, David Weiss, Sang-Seok Yoon

Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Raúl Curto, Montse Fuentes, Adam Jaschen, Cornelia Lang

1. Montse Fuentes, Executive Vice President and Provost, visited with Faculty Assembly. She discussed her vision for the University of Iowa to become a destination university, where students, faculty, and staff expect excellence from themselves, their colleagues, and classmates. She wants to improve graduation rates by increasing student support and reducing equity gaps, in part through the proposed Hawkeye First-Generation Initiative, GEAR UP program, and American Talent Initiative. She plans to expand experiential learning opportunities and find new ways to attract high ability students. Provost Fuentes stated the importance of reversing the decline in PhD student enrollment, for example by competing for training grants and recognizing faculty for mentoring doctoral students. She reviewed data regarding research productivity, including flat extramural funding over the past five years when the number of tenure-track faculty, including faculty identifying as underrepresented minorities, declined. She noted the importance of recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty in elevating the University's profile and improving our AAU rankings, stressing the fundamental importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion to the pursuit of excellence in every area of our academic mission. She also answered questions from the floor, including discussion of the needs of first-generation college students, plans for experiential learning opportunities, improving outcomes in courses with high DFW rates, and retention of faculty.
2. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Adams, Associate Professor of Instruction, Department of Biology, Secretary of the Faculty Assembly