The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Assembly

DRAFT
Minutes
January 28, 2015


Absent (Excused): Aniruddha Dutta, Juan Pablo Hourcade, Paul Kalina, Yasemin Mohammad, Sujatha Sosale, Frank Weirich

Absent: Eloy Barragán, Emilie Destruel-Johnson, Armando Duarte, Elena Gavruseva, Kenneth Gayley, Marc Linderman, Bob McMurray, Tlaloc Rivas, Glenn Storey, David Wittenberg

Guests: Marc Armstrong, Jennifer Bertrand, Raúl Curto, Helena Dettmer, Joe Kearney, Lon Moeller

1. The minutes from December 17, 2014, were approved.

2. Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education Lon Moeller provided an update on undergraduate admissions and enrollment growth strategies. The University’s goal is to enroll 500 more first-year students each year for the next four years, while maintaining diversity and improving the academic profile of incoming classes. Outreach strategies include contact via email, print, social media and on- and off-campus recruitment events. Positive results include an increase in the number of acceptances and net admits compared to this time last year. Related challenges and opportunities include reviewing classroom and laboratory space utilization, improving first-year retention and four-year graduation rates, increasing accessibility and affordability through options such as three-year degrees and online degree completion programs, and articulating the UI’s unique academic identity to students.

3. Associate Dean for Research & Infrastructure, and the Arts Joe Kearney, co-chair of the CLAS Strategic Planning Committee, reviewed the context for building a new CLAS five-year strategic plan in a time of uncertainty. The strategic planning process is an opportunity for the College to reaffirm core values, focus energies, and clarify priorities to guide decision-making and resource allocation. Associate Dean Kearney asked faculty to consider four to six highest priority goals to incorporate into the CLAS strategic plan, and four to six areas for strategic enhancement that would assist in addressing challenges facing Iowa and the nation, and provide a basis for future hiring decisions and programmatic investment. He welcomes input from individual faculty members or Faculty Assembly as a whole. Suggestions and ideas may be submitted online at http://clas.uiowa.edu/deans-office/strategic-planning-committee-suggestion-form.
4. Professor Anita Jung, Chair of Faculty Assembly, noted that Provost Butler will be addressing Faculty Assembly at the February 25 meeting, and initiated a discussion regarding the Provost’s recent correspondence regarding the review of the College. A lively dialogue ensued regarding the role of lecturers in the College. Professor Jung noted that Faculty Assembly does have a subcommittee examining issues surrounding the role and status of lecturers.

5. Professor Russ Ganim, Division of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures, Chair of the FA subcommittee on Impacts of Performance-Based Funding, reported that many new developments have taken place since the December Faculty Assembly meeting, and the PBF subcommittee decided that it will not send a letter to the Iowa Legislature at this time. He encouraged faculty to consider strengthening relationships, by connecting with colleagues at Iowa community colleges and private colleges, and attending events such as the Hawkeye Caucus to be held at the state capitol in late March.

6. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

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