The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Assembly

Minutes
November 14, 2018


Absent (Excused): Chris Brochu, Margaret Carrel, Andrew Casto, Claudio Margulis, Rachel McLaren, Isaac Petersen, Anu Subramanian, Xiaoyi Zhang

Absent: Art Borreca, Emilie Destruel Johnson, Steve Duck, Sabine Götz, Palle Jorgensen, Catriona Parratt, Glenn Storey, Kendra Strand, Richard Turner, Michelle Voss, David Weiss, Susan White

Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Meenakshi Gigi Durham, Robert Durham, Dian Gottlob, Adam Jaschen, Rebecca Kick, Monica Madura, Heather Mineart

1. The minutes from October 17, 2018, were approved.

2. Meenakshi Gigi Durham, Associate Dean for Outreach and Engagement, and CLAS Director of Diversity, presented to Faculty Assembly the 2017-2018 report from the CLAS Committee on Diversity. The main focus of the Committee on Diversity has been to develop a collegiate Strategic Diversity Plan that will incorporate core principles of equity, diversity and inclusion yet remain flexible for the varied needs of CLAS departments. The Committee reviewed issues regarding religious accommodations in the classroom, including consultation regarding related language on CLAS course syllabi, as well as other matters. In the future, the Committee hopes to address concerns related to students’ food insecurity and other economic disparities on campus. Associate Dean Durham reviewed statistics related to hiring of faculty of color, and noted the College is committed to faculty diversity. She also responded to questions from the floor.

3. Monica Madura, Senior Associate Director, CLAS Academic Programs and Student Development, and Heather Mineart, Assistant to the DEO, Department of Physics and Astronomy, presented a proposal to amend the CLAS Manual of Policy and Procedure to create a CLAS Staff Council, previously approved by CLAS Executive Committee. Faculty Assembly approved moving forward the proposal to a vote of the entire faculty in December 2018.

4. The meeting was adjourned.
Respectfully submitted,

Tori Forbes, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry
Secretary of the Faculty Assembly