

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Faculty Assembly

DRAFT
Minutes
October 21, 2020

Present: Lori Adams, Alicia Ambler, Anthony Arnone, Eloy Barragán, Amber Brian, Abigail Castle, Cynthia Chou, Becca Clark, Monica Correia, Stephen Cummings, Kajsa Dalrymple, Pat Dolan, Steve Duck, Lucia Gemmani, Anahita Ghazvinizadeh, Joyee Ghosh, Sabine Gölz, Blaine Greteman, Benjamin Hassman, Jennifer Haylett, Ben Hunnicutt, Will Jennings, Alexis Jiménez, Paul Kalina, Megan Knight, Mary Kosloski, Gregory Landini, Claudio Margulis, Rachel McLaren, Elizabeth Menninga, Jane Nachtman, Bruce Nottingham-Spencer, Robert Peck, Isaac Petersen, Silvia Secchi, Padmini Srinivasan, Glenn Storey, Kendra Strand, Jenna Supp-Montgomerie, Denise Szecsei, Mohammad F. Tehrani, Joyce Tsai, Eric Vázquez, Travis Vogan, Elizabeth Walker, David Weiss, Marc Wold, Xiaoyi Zhang

Absent (Excused): Natalie Fixmer-Oraiz, Mio Iovanov, Marie Kruger, Anna Malkova, Ronald Rozencohn, Frank Weirich

Absent: Aron Aji, Phillip Round, Christine Rutledge, Stephen Warren

Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Jennifer Eimers, Adam Jaschen, Cornelia Lang, Sara Sanders, Walter Seaman

1. Steve Duck, DEO and Professor, Department of Rhetoric, and Chair of Faculty Assembly announced the appointment of five Faculty Assembly representatives to the CLAS Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
2. The minutes from September 16, 2020, were approved.
3. Sara Sanders, Interim Dean, and Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, presented a proposal to amend the CLAS *Manual of Policy and Procedure*, Article XI: Committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, previously approved by CLAS Executive Committee. The proposal increases the number of committee members and specifies their length of service. Faculty Assembly voted to move forward the proposed amendment to a vote of the full faculty, with an addition clarifying term length for replacement Faculty Assembly appointees.
4. Dean Sanders addressed the impact on CLAS of the UI's two-week pause for certain DEI-related trainings in response to the recent Executive Order on Combating Race and Sex Stereotyping, noting that only mandatory implicit bias training for human resources purposes in the college were affected. Other CLAS 2020-21 DEI Action Plan items, including the Pursuing Racial Justice at the University of Iowa theme year initiative, were unaffected. In addition, the Executive Order did not permeate teaching.
5. Dean Sanders briefly reviewed the timeline for the upcoming review of the College, which occurs approximately every 8 years, and announced members of the CLAS Self-Study Committee who have been appointed according to the CLAS *Manual of Policy and Procedure*, Article XIV. In addition to having opportunities to provide input and feedback during the self-study process, Faculty Assembly shall approve the self-study document

before it is submitted to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, as outlined in the CLAS *MOPP*.

6. Faculty Assembly discussed evening exams. Representatives from several departments noted their concerns related to evening exams, including additional class time that comes with having a separate evening exam time; conflicts with scheduled courses, work, or other obligations a student may have; and students prioritizing courses that have evening exams over other courses. Other FA members pointed out that evening exams are necessary for some departments, as a 50 minute class period is not sufficient to give an exam in a large course, and rescheduling the exam is possible when there is a course conflict. Cornelia Lang, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Education, thanked Faculty Assembly for addressing the topic, and said she will review the scope of the issue and consider potential solutions while at the same time ensuring academic integrity.
7. Faculty Assembly discussed the upcoming search for a new President of the University of Iowa, and if a statement from Faculty Assembly requesting that the Board of Regents, State of Iowa, appoint an interim President would be a worthwhile endeavor. After discussion, the issue was tabled.
8. The meeting was adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Hassman, Lecturer, Department of Rhetoric
Secretary of the Faculty Assembly