
Absent (Excused): Aniruddha Dutta, Shawn Goodman, Amanda Haes, Kathryn Lavezzo, Thomas Oates, Nathan Platte, Jacki Rand, Ana Rodríguez-Rodríguez, Christine Shea, Marc Wold, Katherine Wolfe

Absent: Philip Kaaret, Bob McMurray, Richard Roller, Stephen Warren

Guests: Jennifer Bertrand, Raúl Curto, Christine Getz, Dian Gottlob, Adam Jaschen, Anna Jensen, Dan Matheson, Patrick Moran

1. Professor Christopher Brochu, Vice Chair of Faculty Assembly, requested that members, alternates, and guests sign the attendance roster at each meeting, and noted that the remaining Faculty Assembly meetings for fall semester will be held October 19 and November 16, with no December meeting planned.

2. The minutes from April 27, 2016, were approved.

3. Executive Associate Dean Raúl Curto discussed revision to the CLAS Manual of Procedure currently underway by CLAS Executive Committee. Proposed changes include addition of a collegiate mission statement, creation of an instructional faculty track and inclusion of Lecturers as regular faculty, reconfiguration of voting groups by areas (Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural & Mathematical Sciences) with proportional representation on committees, and use of well-defined terminology found in the CLAS Glossary which will help ensure consistency, compatibility and robustness of the document. Other changes will address procedures for filling committee vacancies and rebalancing voting groups over time. A revised Manual will be brought to Faculty Assembly for discussion and a vote this fall, followed by a referendum of the entire faculty in the spring.

Dean Curto also addressed changes in the status of Lecturers necessitated by the new UI Instructional Faculty Policy, approved by Faculty Senate in March 2016. Current Senior Lecturers will have the opportunity to transition to the rank of Associate Professor of Instruction; a promotion of rank not previously available. The rank of Professor of Instruction also will be implemented by July 1, 2017.

4. Professor Russell Ganim, Director, Division of World Languages, Literatures, & Cultures; and member, Strategic Plan Development Group, reviewed progress regarding the UI
Strategic Plan 2016-2021. A draft currently is available on the Provost's website and addresses the areas of Research & Discovery, Student Success, and Engagement. Open forums have been held to gather feedback from stakeholders. The intention is for the final plan to be submitted on October 1, then sent to the Strategic Implementation Team and the Operations Team for implementation of strategic goals.

5. Professor Anny Curtius, Department of French & Italian, and Professor Michael Hill, Department of English, co-chairs of the Faculty Assembly Diversity Committee, provided a brief report of FA Diversity Committee activities in 2015-2016, and a vision for the relationship between the FA Diversity Committee and the CLAS Committee on Diversity for the current academic year. Last year, all five members of the FA Diversity Committee served on the CLAS Committee on Diversity and contributed to its work on issues including interfaith and religious diversity, a possible collaboration between CLAS and the Bias Assessment and Response Team (BART), and a syllabus addendum regarding gender inclusivity. This year, the co-chairs would like to have a division of labor, with the CLAS Committee on Diversity working on a variety of topics, and the FA Diversity Committee focusing on curricular issues related to diversity.

6. The Vice Chair reviewed how subcommittees of Faculty Assembly might function for 2016-2017, and asked for input regarding continuing and new subcommittees. Besides the Faculty Assembly Diversity Committee, other subcommittees that will continue this year include Role and Status of Lecturers, Vision and Outreach, and Free Speech on Campus. Motions were made and approved by voice vote to form two new subcommittees: Exploration of Faculty Unionization, and TA Allocation and Hiring. FA members may email their preferences for subcommittee assignments and ideas for other subcommittees to Jennifer Bertrand.

7. The Vice Chair led a conversation concerning review of PhD programs by the Graduate College. Several FA members expressed concern regarding presumed errors in data and statistics, including some that disproportionately penalized small departments, and lack of mechanism for feedback. Faculty Assembly will invite appropriate representatives from the Graduate College to a future meeting for further discussion.

8. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Professor Christopher Brochu, Department of Earth & Environmental Sciences
Vice Chair/Chair-Elect of the Faculty Assembly