
College of Arts and Sciences: College Council
Meeting Minutes

College of Arts and Sciences (COAS)

10-18-2013

College of Arts & Sciences Council Meeting : 2013 : 10 : 18

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College of Arts and Science Faculty Council Meeting October 18, 2013

Present: Rebecca Johns-Krishnaswami (Chair), Jill McCracken (Vice-Chair), Melanie Riedinger-Whitmore, Henry Alegria, John Arthur, Judithanne Scourfield McLauchlan, Michiko Clutter.

Absent: Raymond Arsenault, Mark Walters

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 by Rebecca Johns-Krishnaswami. The council approved the minutes from September 20th, 2013.

The Council was notified by Dean Biafora that Bob Dardenne had passed away the night before, the Council is deeply saddened that we have lost a good friend and colleague.

SOCAT will meet with us during our November meeting to discuss safety issues related to student behavior. John Arthur and Melanie Riedinger-Whitmore will talk with Jeff Reisberg about safety issues on campus, specifically having locks on classroom doors.

November 1st continues to be the FC deadline for the program and department guidelines. The council will look at these documents during the November meeting.

The Council began a discussion on the resolution concerning Contracts for Visiting Faculty with guests Julie Armstrong, Morgan Gresham, Louis Simon and Amy Robinson. We request the Dean to honor the 4-year contract of Visiting Faculty as the resolution states. We also request the Dean to advocate for departments regarding critical tenure-track lines.

In November, the Faculty Council will discuss the relationship between the Faculty Council and the CAS Chairs.

Chairs compensation – Faculty Council will continue to obtain data from comparable institutions and will ask the CAS Chairs to contribute information as well. Faculty Council is not satisfied with how Chairs and Program Coordinators are compensated and the Faculty Council is considering programs to become individual departments and the Chairs are considering the idea of a formalized strike!

Tenure and Promotion from USF Tampa - Psychology believes that USFSP should follow the USF Tampa guidelines. Biology is unanimous in writing up our own USFSP guidelines. Verbal and Visual Arts is in favor of revising the USF Tampa guidelines to meet the mission and values of our campus. Society, Culture, and Language is split in whether we should adopt the USF Tampa guidelines or not.

We are still waiting to hear officially from the Environmental Science, Policy, and Geography, Journalism and Media Studies, and History and Politics departments.

New Business: A new strategic planning period has started. Dean Biafora has asked the Faculty Council to come up with four individuals for the new strategic planning committee. The Council is putting forward Julie Armstrong, John Arthur, Thomas Smith, and Deni Elliott.

The Faculty Council is going to ask the departments to review the current College Mission and to give feedback to the Council.

The Council is concerned about the issue of rewarding specific individuals from a USF Retention Fund who are considered “productive and loyal employees”, which was a description in a previous USF President letter concerning faculty compensation. The Faculty Council would like to know how people are going to be compensated from this “Retention Fund” and will ask Dean Biafora to provide details regarding how faculty will be compensated.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm by Chair Rebecca Johns-Krishnaswami.