

Eastern Michigan University
College of Arts & Sciences
College Advisory Council
Minutes

October 20, 2022 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Attendance: Melissa Jones (WGST and Chair), Grigoris Argeros (SAC), Peter Blackmer (AAAS), Joe Breza (Psy), Brian Bruya (H&P), Phil Cardon (SAD), James Egge (Dean's Office), Marisol Garrido-Gutierrez (WL), Chris Gellasch (G&G), Jason Gibson (M&S), Katy Greenwald (ENVI), Heather Holmes (Chem), Debra Ingram (Dept Head M&S), Ellen Koch (Dean's Office), Marianne Laporte (Bio), Julian Murchinson (DH); Biswajit Panja (CS), Jonathan Skuza (P&A), Tucker Staley (PS), Amanda Stype (Econ), Annette Wannamaker (Engl), Jamie Ward (CMTA)

- I. Call to Order – Jones called the meeting to order at 3:31pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes - Laporte moved and Ageros seconded to approve the minutes of September 22, 2022. The motion passed 12-0-3.
- III. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Arts - Jones presented the Arts Committee Report from October 6, 2022. Argeros moved and Skuza seconded to accept the Arts Report. The motion passed 15-0-0.
 - b. Sciences - Holmes presented the Sciences Committee Report from October 6, 2022. Gellasch moved and Holmes seconded to accept the Sciences report. The motion passed 15-0-0.
 - c. New business – Staley moved to approve and Laporte seconded approving IDE 441, 442, 541 and 542 as a package.

Holmes inquired about graduate and undergraduate separation in the proposals. Jones discussed an email sent to Evan Finley addressing the separate requirements between graduate and undergraduate courses. Finley replied pointing to information in the documents stating graduate level courses will do additional work including qualitative research skills to interview two designers of high-end mobility equipment and a paper. The package was approved 14-0-1.
- IV. Elections
 - a. FRF/Sabbatical Committee – Mary Ramsey was nominated from Arts. Approved by acclamation.
 - b. Grad Council (2-year term): One *Humanities*; one *Social Sciences* – Tucker Staley self-nominated for Social Sciences. Approved by acclamation.
- V. Personnel Subcommittee Meeting Report

- a. ReOrg: Report Summary; ad hoc committee of experts to gather and process college wide input (including EMU-AAUP compliance); target date Fall 2024.

The six committee members (3 faculty and 3 deans) will come up with a short summary of the report, run it by CAC for approval and input, then ask CAC to disseminate the summary amongst colleagues. The Deans office will then put out a call for nominations for a subcommittee to gather input, code data and bring it back to CAC for formal college input.

Jones highlighted that the reorg input is an opportunity for faculty to take charge of the future and shape change.

VI. Deans' Remarks

- a. Associate Dean Koch

- i. GA Allocation Process (Fall)

Koch stated that the final budget has not been provided yet. There will likely be a need to cut between 20-25 GA positions due to declining enrollment. Twenty seven percent of graduate students are funded through assistantships. The target is 10% funding.

Discussion ensued. Blackmer noted the significant cut and ask what the strategy was for supplementing the tuition of graduate students or replacing what the college is losing to make master's and PhD programs more accessible to students from working class backgrounds. Koch noted that the cuts were similar to the amount of GA positions that were cut last year. Last year GA allocations went from 184.5 to 163.4. Argeros asked about criteria. Jones pointed to a document in the Drive highlighting departments with allocations that exceeded the CAS Dean's average.

Laporte noted that not all assistantships were equal. Blackmer (in the chat) noted graduate programs in the humanities particularly need graduate assistantships to incentivize enrollment for working-class students, as future earnings aren't likely to make up for the cost of tuition in the same way as, say, and MBA. Jones encouraged Laporte to provide alternative conceptual scaffolding for the committee to review as input.

Gellasch asked where graduate assistants were getting funding and how many GA positions were funded by grants or other funding sources. Koch was unsure but would report back with that information. Stype cautioned that the approach should address disciplinary differences.

- ii. Faculty Release Time Allocation Process (Fall/Winter)

Koch asked that department think about faculty release time. She highlighted that a significant portion of the budget was going to replacement dollars for release time.

Blackmer asked what extent the review of release time would relate to research and scholarly release time. Koch clarified that they were separate and this was not a replacement situation. Jones asked what was driving the desire to reassess faculty release since there is not one model that fits all departments. Koch highlighted budgetary and equity concerns.

iii. Instructional Targets (Winter) – There was no discussion.

b. Associate Dean Egge

i. Advising Review Team Report

Egge reported that last year all five full time advisors in Francine Parker quit. Exit interviews identified excessive workload as the reason behind the departures. The new team is comprised of four advisors and two GAs.

Blackmer asked for information on the support structures being developed to facilitate the transition between departments and majors. If all five advisors left because of being overworked and if faculty are saying advising is a substantial responsibility, particularly faculty in small departments, at what point will there be more investments in advising? Egge highlighted that the advising has changed from comprehensive to transactional. He also stressed the need to develop a way to assess the success of advising. He stressed the need for faculty to have contact and mentor students.

Stype highlighted the need for training and providing best practices, so the work does not largely fall onto women and POC.

Jones suggested inviting advisors to a future CAC meeting.

ii. Scholarships Update

Egge will post a call next week.

c. Dean Heller – There were no remarks.

VII. Chair's Remarks – There were no remarks.

VIII. Faculty Remarks

LaPorte noted a new purchasing system that made it difficult to make purchases. She highlighted lack of training and confusion between department heads and the purchasing department causing a delay in getting items ordered. Breza also discussed increased difficulty with the new system and approval processes. Koch explained the shopper and approver process. She will research who has permissions. Koch also encouraged those who use the system to request training.

Jones noted that this was something to be kept on the radar and highlighted the way the university squanders resources that seem fiscally responsible but disproportionately add to faculty labor.

IX. Adjourn – Jones adjourned the meeting at 4:50pm.