

Eastern Michigan University
College of Arts and Sciences, College Advisory Council

Minutes: 11 January, 2024

Pray-Harrold 219

Attendance: Melissa Jones (WGST, Chair), Grigoris Argeros (SAC/SOC), Joe Breza (PSY), Jim Egge (Dean), Marisol Garrido (WL), Jason Gibson (MATH/STAT), Katy Greenwald (ENVI), Dana Heller (Dean CAS), Heather Holmes (CHEM, Secretary), Debbie Ingram (MATH/STAT Dept. Head Rep.), Caralee Jones-Obenc (AAAS), Andre Kahliev (Comp. Sci.), Ellen Koch (Dean's Office), Marianne Laporte (BIO), Laura McMahon (HIST/PHIL), Julian Murchison (SAC Dept. Head), Deron Overpeck (CMTA), Heather Shouldice (Music & Dance), Daniel Seely (Ling/Eng), Jonathan Skuza (PHY/ASTR), Tom Suchan (ART),

1. Call to Order at 3:33 pm
2. Approval of Minutes – December 7, 2023
 - a. moved and seconded (Overpeck, Garrido), approved 8-0-3
3. Welcome New and Returning Members:
 - a. Heather Shouldice (Music & Dance), Dan Seely (Ling/Eng), Grigoris Argeros (SAC), Andre Kahliev (Comp. Sci.)
4. Move to amend agenda (Suchan, Overpeck): Elections to come after Dean's remarks so G&G can be present, approved unanimously
5. Standing Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Arts (none): Chair, Melissa Jones
 - b. Sciences (none): Chair, Heather Holmes
6. Elected Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Personnel (update)
 - i. Personnel subcommittee needs to meet with Dean Heller re: new faculty position requests to make the process more timely.
 - b. Budget Subcommittee (update)
 - i. The Budget subcommittee has been hard at work on recommendations for Program Coordinator release. They're pulling together another draft to share with CAC. The primary consideration is the equitable distribution of resources.

- ii. Graduate Coordinator release may be held up until a few more groups are done so that everyone has a better picture of how things will look, though that's not certain at this point.

7. Dean's Remarks

a. Dean Heller: Dean's Reorganization Update

- i. Cluster hire: The Provost has made her decisions, and is giving her ranking to the Faculty Senate, who will give their opinion. Timing will depend on the next Senate meeting, but she expects this to move forward quickly.
- ii. Game Above Professional Development Program : A call will be sent out for applications/proposals. The goal is to put money in people's hands before the end of the term.
- iii. Reorg: The proposal is very close to being finished. It was held up so the Dean could meet with all of the union leaders. The talks were productive and helpful. The biggest concern was DON'T MAKE US RENEGOTIATE THE CONTRACT. Their goal is to send out the proposal by the end of next week.

8. Elections

- a. It's very difficult to get people to fill committee positions, and we all understand why. However, these are contractually-negotiated faculty bodies, and they were hard-won in negotiations. So, if we take shared governance seriously, these positions need to be filled.
- b. CAC representatives need to bring the openings to their departments to find people to fill the positions.
- c. Discussion of Categories and Representation –
 - i. Each department is "appointed" a category. For ex. English is Humanities even though some of their faculty are Arts or Social Sciences.
 - ii. Should faculty represent their department if they don't identify with the assigned category, and don't feel as though they could adequately represent that area? Should faculty represent by discipline or department?

- iii. If people represent a whole discipline rather than a department, they would need to communicate with others in the discipline across the campus.
 - iv. There isn't a simple answer to this question, but as it stands, the department category is what should be represented by the representative of that department. Should we revise the categories?
 - v. A comment was made that the categories are largely unnecessary because there have been so few times when something has been discussed where the view from different categories was significantly different. One example that was given was when the Graduate School was going to match grant money. While the Sciences would benefit from that, the Arts and Humanities would not, because they don't write grants.
 - vi. Representatives are elected, so they could be rejected by vote. The problem with that is that faculty are stretched so thin that any person willing to serve will get the job because otherwise the seat will go unfilled. At this point in time, someone can fill a slot if they personally identify with that category regardless of what their department is. We will check with the union to see if they have guidance on this issue.
 - vii. The CAC will table this issue and pick up discussion in a future meeting.
- d. Call for Nominations for Grad Council
 - i. Social Sciences (open Winter 2024)
 - ii. Natural Sciences (open Fall 2023/Winter 2024)
 - iii. Bring nominations to the next CAC meeting
 - e. Undergraduate Research and Sabbatical Leave Committees: FRF/Sabbatical & SRA (Arts, Sciences). No openings

9. Faculty Remarks – none

10. Chair Remarks

11. Additional Dean's Remarks

- a. Dean Egge: Please consider attending the concert on Jan. 20 from 7:30 to 9 pm in the Honors College Auditorium.
- b. Dean Heller: Please consider attending the Junior Faculty Forum in the atrium of the Honors College on Feb. 2. An announcement will be circulated.

12. Adjournment at 4:17