

**College of Humanities and Natural Sciences
Council of Chairs Meeting – Bobet 202
October 5, 2015 • 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Call to Order

Dean Maria Calzada called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Attended: Terri Bednarz, John Biguenet, Maria Calzada, Eileen Doll, Sonya Duhe, Erin Dupuis, Philip Dynia, Don Hauber, Luis Miron for Marcus Kondkar, David Moore, Connie Mui, Connie Rodriguez, Rae Taylor, Jeremy Thibodeaux for Ralph Tucci

Also Present: Susan Oakes, Nikita Milton and Craig Hood

I. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of September 14, 2015 were approved with one change and two abstentions. The change was that Craig Hood was not in attendance at the September COC.

II. Fall Open House – Susan Oakes

Susan Oakes, Director of Admissions, and Nikita Milton, Assistant Director of Campus Visits announced that the Fall Open House would be on November 14th. They proposed a switch in the open house schedule, and wanted feedback and input from the chairs. Ms. Oakes said that they would start the day with a welcome session in Roussell Hall, followed by a brunch with resources where students could ask questions. She said the big change would be with the academic sessions. This year the idea is to do information sessions programmatically, with some majors grouped together. The group sessions could be question and answer based, panel discussions, etc. Faculty and students could say a few words about what is special about their department. Bringing students is important so that they can talk about their research. She went on to explain that the Fall and Spring Open House's are different from each other. The Fall Open House is for students who are shopping for colleges, and the Spring Open House is for admitted or deposited students.

There was a discussion and Dean Calzada said that she would follow up with the chairs to see if this proposed arrangement is appropriate.

III. Environment Program – Craig Hood

Dr. Craig Hood, Director of Environment Program, gave a report on the Environment Program and its position in relation to the college. He began by giving a history of how the program initially started. He said that he hopes the Environment Program can have a seat on the Council of Chairs. Dr. Hood said a year ago the Environment Program made a case with Provost Manganaro that it should be in the College of Arts and Sciences, as the program needs support from an academic college. The environment program has majors and is awarding degrees. He said that the environment faculty are the founding faculty and volunteers. They teach their regular courses and also create courses and have their own advisees. During the financial equilibrium program review process, it was recommended that the Environment Program achieve department status and sustainability. He said that the new faculty would come from new lines and that some existing faculty might change their appointment.

Dean Calzada asked Dr. Hood if he had a formal proposal yet. Dr. Hood replied that they are putting together a short proposal and it would be ready by the end of this semester. After a

brief discussion, Dean Calzada said that she would invite Dr. Hood back to the COC when he had his proposal together.

IV. Strategic Planning

Dean Calzada said that a member of the College Planning Team would reach out to the chairs to work on their strategic priorities. She said that there would be sessions for Social Sciences to talk about the mission, vision, values statements, and strategic priorities. A doodle poll will be sent out to sign up for Thursday, October 22nd and Friday, October 23rd sessions.

V. Research Active Committee and Teaching Loads

Dean Calzada reported that Provost Manganaro convened the first Research Active Committee meeting last week. This committee is charged with defining and assessing what it means to be research active. The Faculty Loads Task Force of the Financial Equilibrium Committee recommended that all research active ordinary faculty teach a 3-3 load. The implications would be that non-research active faculty would teach more than that. The chairs expressed concern about how the membership of this committee was formed. Dean Calzada said that Provost Manganaro had asked for recommendations for committee members and that she recommended the chairs. He asked that John Biguenet and Don Hauber be on the committee. Dean Calzada said that she is not on the committee, but was invited to the first meeting.

The chairs expressed that this process should follow protocols in each area.

VI. Revised Common Curriculum Proposal/Language Requirements

Dean Calzada reported that the SCCC endorsed a version of the revised common curriculum proposal with some changes. It has not been approved yet, just endorsed. It must be approved at all levels. In theory this is going to be approved for incoming students for Fall 2016 and will replace the new common curriculum. It will eliminate the ethics and language requirement.

The chairs discussed the proposal and expressed concerns about where we are headed as a university. Dr. Doll said that as part of the Financial Equilibrium recommendations, her department was asked to eliminate all languages except French and Spanish. Others said that students studying abroad needed other languages. There was also concern about the 39 hours being a done deal. Dean Calzada said that she would bring this issue up to the COC again.

VII. Financial Equilibrium

Financial Equilibrium and SCAP recommendations will soon be forwarded to the President.

VIII. Sexual Harassment and ADA Trainings

Dean Calzada said that Diane Riehlmann would be sending out dates from the Office of Legal Counsel for the mandatory sexual harassment and ADA training sessions.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.