

Humanities and Natural Sciences College Assembly
Thursday, March 17, 2016
Bobet Hall Room 332
12:30p.m. - 1:50p.m.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The assembly was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Dean Maria Calzada in Bobet Hall 332.

In Attendance:

Biological Sciences – Rosalie Anderson, Don Hauber

Chemistry and Biochemistry – Anna Duggar, CJ Stephenson, Joelle Underwood

Classical Studies –

English –Kate Adams, Robert Bell, John Biguenet, Hillary Eklund, Trimiko Melancon, Nancy Rowe, Chris Schaberg, Mary Waguespack, Tim Welsh

History –Maurice Brungardt, Nicole Eggers, Robert Gerlich, S.J., Behrooz Moazami, David Moore (Proxy for Sara Butler) Sanjog Rupakheti, Rian Thum

Languages and Cultures – Eileen Doll, Nathan Henne, Alice Kornovich, Naomi Yavneh

Mathematical Sciences – Patrick Corbin, Xuefeng Li, Katarzyna Saxton, Karen Villarreal

Philosophy –Joseph Berendzen, Mark Gossiaux, Leonard Kahn, Patrick Leland, Connie Mui, Jonathan Peterson

Physics – Armin Kargol, Martin McHugh

Psychological Sciences – Erin Dupuis, Glenn Hymel, Lawrence Lewis, Enrique Varela, Kate Yurgil, Suzanne Ledet-Yuspeh, Evan Zucker

Religious Studies – Tim Cahill, Elizabeth Goodine, Adil Khan, Edward Vacek, S.J., Cathy Wessinger

College of Humanities and Natural Sciences – Maria Calzada, Uriel Quesada

Guests – Christian Bolden, Bethany Brown, Phil Dynia, Kelly Frailing, Marcus Kondkar, Rae Taylor, Lydia Voight

II. Invocation

Dr. Mark Gossiaux of the Department of Philosophy gave the invocation.

Dean Calzada then asked the assembly to switch the order of the agenda so that the guest speaker could go first. Hearing no objection, she switched the order of the agenda.

III. Admissions/Enrollment Management – Roberta Kaskel

Roberta Kaskel, Vice President of Enrollment Management, reported that the rescheduled Open House would be on Saturday, April 9th. The day will be repeated as it was originally planned. Save the Dates have already gone out and a video invitation will also go out. She said that there would also be two weekday visit events called Admitted Student Fridays in addition to the rescheduled President's Open House. Admitted Student Fridays are campus visit opportunities designed exclusively for admitted students and families. The special Friday visits will be filled with chances to sit in on classes, meet with faculty and current students, attend a mock class designed just for admitted students, tour campus, meet with financial aid, and have lunch in the Orleans Room. She said faculty can email her and Dean Calzada if they teach on Friday and would like to assist with class visits, mock classes, and meetings with students. Admitted Student Fridays are scheduled for April 1st, in conjunction with Honors Experience, and April 15th.

IV. Approval of Minutes

There was a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting; It was seconded, a vote was taken and the minutes were approved with 2 abstentions.

V. Announcements

Dr. Joelle Underwood announced that a meeting would take place to officially reconstitute the Loyola Chapter of the AAUP on Thursday, March 31, 12:30 p.m. in MO 301. Faculty that are interested but unable to attend, or who just want more information can contact her.

Dr. Uriel Quesada announced that the representative and speaker for DSAC is Genesis Rodas.

VI. Research Active Committee Report – John Biguenet and Don Hauber

Professor John Biguenet and Dr. Don Hauber, representatives on the Research Active Ad Hoc Committee, reported that they have been meeting since September and updated the assembly on their most recent work (Attachment # 1). As part of financial equilibrium the task of the committee is to address if faculty are research active and at what level. Professor Biguenet said that the Provost will follow traditional channels of governance, and that their roles on the committee are to simply draft a preliminary document. He said that this committee will not impose anything. Professor Biguenet went on to say that the statement is still being worked through and departments must define their own research.

Dr. Erin Dupuis then presented a motion on behalf of the departments of Psychological Sciences and History:

Motion Regarding “Research-Active” Faculty Designations Submitted by Drs. Erin Dupuis and Lawrence Lewis: We move that given its lack of consistency with an integrated approach to teaching and research, the culture and history of Loyola University New Orleans, and the Jesuit commitment to cura personalis, the faculty of the College of Arts and Sciences, oppose the implementation of any research active/inactive dichotomous classification.

The motion was seconded. The motion was then amended to say College of Humanities and Natural Sciences, instead of College of Arts and Sciences.

There was a discussion where the following points were made by assembly members:

- Issues with non research activity being associated with consumption of knowledge; research activity also requires consumption of knowledge
- Issues with ‘especially valuing’ collaborative research with students; this does not apply to some disciplines
- Privileging research over other things faculty do; what will this do to mentoring honors thesis
- There is a hierarchy here that is offensive; we do not separate teaching and research and this will hinder collaborative research
- The last time the university did this it caused animosity and took up a tremendous amount of time; this is very negative
- Will support any motion to move against this; we should aspire to doing something more worthwhile; pressure on us is going to turn us into bean counters.
- There was a question on why this was being done at all; are some faculty not doing any work; it should fall on the unit leaders if someone is not doing their job
- We will never be able to dig out of a 4/4 hole
- Request for the committee to completely drop this
- How does this affect extraordinary faculty
- Haven’t heard about promotion to full professor, sabbaticals, etc. and how it affects post-tenure faculty
- Not seeing this as a living document; Provost started the committee for one reason, then changed course
- The handbook should be followed properly
- The assembly recognized and thanked Professor Biguenet and Dr. Hauber for their work on the committee

There was a request for a straw caucus poll. Someone suggested suspending the rules to take a straw poll. Dean Calzada asked if assembly members would like to speak in favor of the “research active” work. No one spoke to this.

VII. Loyola Core Implementation

Dean Calzada said there will be a meeting with chairs, deans and the Provost to discuss Loyola Core implementation. The default for current students is their catalogue year. If a student would like to “opt in” to the Loyola Core this would change the catalogue year to 2016-2017 in its entirety. Students must submit an “opt in” form by January 20, 2017. The Dean’s Office will continue meeting with departments to facilitate transition.

VIII. College Restructuring – CAS Handbook

Dean Calzada said that the second Google Docs documents relating to CRTC and CPT are online. She urged the faculty to look them over during the Easter break and make comments.

IX. SACS Review

Dr. Joelle Underwood asked if the SACS review came back with questions about Loyola's financial stability. Dean Calzada said that SACS wants clarification on three items:

- 1.) Law School – L.L.M. Program
- 2.) QEP – Needs more structure and resources
- 3.) Financial Stability of the University

She said SACS will vote on our accreditation in December. It is of course a matter of concern that SACS noted the financial problems of the institution. It is unclear what, if anything, SACS would do about our financial matters. Dean Calzada said she understood other institutions (e.g. UNO) have been asked similar questions and they were re-accredited.

X. Move to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.

Attachment #1: Report to the College Assembly on the Research-Active Ad Hoc Committee

The Research-Active Ad Hoc Committee's most recent work has been to develop a conceptual definition of university research. The definition drafted by the committee states: "Active research is characterized by the production of knowledge. Consumers of knowledge read, review, subscribe, and attend to knowledge. Producers of knowledge add to the cumulative understanding of their areas of specialty by delivering presentations, publications, and performances. Often they are awarded internal and external grant funding in support of these activities. While research is a process, and much of the best research might unfold over a period of years, active research status requires substantiation of progress beyond a self-assessment. In addition to more traditional individual or collaborative research, Loyola especially values collaborative research with students. As such, in order to achieve research active status a tenured faculty member must..."

The departments, schools and programs have been asked to supply the committee with an operational definition for research-active status as it pertains to post-tenured faculty in their respective programs. The committee has received many of these from the departments and we are assimilating these statements to determine if criteria are comparable within disciplines and, when possible, across disciplines. The provost has said that the Senate will be consulted about the work of the committee and that regular channels of faculty governance will be respected as we move forward. The provost and the committee want to be clear that the criteria and processes for assessing research-active status flow from the respective departments, schools, and colleges. The committee has no intention of imposing such criteria.