

**DEPARTMENT MEETING
POLITICAL SCIENCE
AUGUST 28, 2018**

Attendees: Roger White, Philip Dynia, Sean Cain, Young Soo Kim. Minutes taken by: Wendy Porche

Approval of minutes:

Dr. White asked faculty if they approve or had revisions to the minutes of the last two meetings? Dr. Dynia moved to approve and Dr. Kim seconded. Minutes approved.

Joe Berendzen – Interim Honors Director

Dr. White introduced Dr. Joe Berendzen to discuss the honor's program. Dr. Berendzen distributed the Political Science Honor's DPCL. There have been changes in some of the other programs but political science has not had any significant changes. Dr. Berendzen stated that two things from the Council of Chairs were that as the new Honor's advisor: 1) I do not see myself as the primary advisor, but rather the secondary advisor to avoid curriculum problems. Instead the department will serve as the primary advisor and Dr. Berendzen will not unlock student registration in order for them to come to the department. 2) Dr. Berendzen wants to make sure everyone understands the honor's curriculum. He went through the DPCL with faculty. Honor's Ethics is a check off course that is satisfied by one of the below courses from History through Religious Studies. Dr. Berendzen asked what the department thinks about the Social Justice Seminar? Political Science offered an honor's course five years ago. Sociology and Criminal Justice teach the Social Justice Seminar generally. Dr. Berendzen will take any proposals to teach one of these courses. The course needs to pertain to some social justice topic. Also, a service-learning component may be good idea for the course as well, but would not be required of faculty to add. If possible, Dr. Berendzen would like diversity in social justice course topics that honors offers.

One other thing Dr. Berendzen wanted to point out is how many majors we have in each major? Also, to note that this DPCL might not be the same for juniors or seniors. For juniors and seniors faculty should look at the first page of the bulletin, under honors, for the correct DPCL's. Dr. Berendzen can be reached at extension 2828 for any questions. He stated that he would prefer if the department handles honor's students, unless advisor's need assistance. Students will be required to take all required courses and substitutions will be rare, if at all.

Dr. Cain asked about the honor's thesis because most majors require a Capstone course? When is that offered? Dr. Berendzen stated that it is offered in both fall and

spring, but that the thesis requirement needs to be discussed in the more detail in the future.

Dr. Berendzen also asked how the department would feel about the honor's curriculum growing? Would it affect our majors? Department agreed that it would not affect our majors for honors to offer another course. However, Dr. Cain pointed out that many honor's students feel the need to double major and minor and that could pose an issue. Dr. Berendzen noted that concern.

Dr. White and department thanked Dr. Berendzen for attending.

Proposed statement to the Dean on the dismissal of Phil as chair

Dr. White stated that he would be happy with any of his colleagues serving as chair and was happy with Phil as well. Dr. White stated that he would also be very supportive of anyone that could serve as chair in the future as well. He stated that the department all gets along well with one another and he would continue to support that. Dr. White stated that he had no objection to the letter to the Dean regarding Dr. Dynia's dismissal.

Dr. Cain discussed his letter and stated that the letter dismissing Dr. Dynia stunned him. Therefore, Dr. Cain felt it appropriate to inform to Dean that this is not how leadership decisions should be made. It effects unity, moral, governance, and collegiality. In addition, the nomination for chair could have been an opportunity to choose a department chair for a five-year term. Dr. Cain emphasized that the faculty should do what is best for department unity and also show support for Dr. Dynia. Dr. Cain stated that this is no reflection on Dr. White's leadership, but more on department unity and procedure. Dr. White stated that he is uncomfortable in the situation but wants to make the best of the situation at hand. Dr. Dynia stated that he was very appreciative of the support of the department. Dr. Dynia stated that if anyone else in the department received the dismissal letter he would have taken the same position as Dr. Cain. He emphasized that some response in this situation was absolutely essential.

Dr. White asked if the department wished to vote by secret ballot whether or not to forward Dr. Cain's letter to the Dean?

Department moved for an email ballot. Wendy will send out a ballot to all faculty in attendance.

Student Learning Outcomes

Dr. White received an email regarding learning outcomes, which are currently six, that the University requested go down to two, if possible. Dr. White will send this document to faculty and they can give feedback.

First Year Seminars

Dr. White stated that, if possible, it would be a great idea if faculty wanted to teach a FYS. Many of these are online now so please keep that in mind.

Core Courses

Dr. White also suggested that teaching more core courses could be a good tool for recruiting majors.

Internships

Dr. White asked faculty to think about internships. He suggested maybe we could be thinking of more ways to create internships for political science students. Dr. Dynia stated that local government was a great resource, but that faculty position was not filled. The department agreed that an urban government faculty member would be a great resource for this. Dr. White asked if something comes up to let him know and we can coordinate with the career center.

Dr. Dynia stated that we still have the Washington Semester program. Dr. Dynia is the Loyola representative and tuition is negotiable and some financial aid transfers as well. Going there for the full semester is very beneficial. The grades that they get do count at Loyola. This is the premier program in Washington.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. White stated that there is now a form that is filled out for incompletes. This is an agreement between the professor and student available on the bulletin for both to complete. The agreement is meant to give deadlines. This agreement went into affect this semester.

Dr. White asked how often the department would like to meet? Once or twice per semester was suggested by faculty. All agreed to schedule after mid term grades.

Dr. Cain moved to adjourn. Phil seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:45pm.