

Spring 2020 CLAS Faculty Assembly Minutes
April 7, 2020
Online via Zoom
submitted by Dr. Alyssa Zucker, Secretary to the CLAS Faculty

1. Dr. E. Christine Davis, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes from the Fall 2019 assembly were approved in a poll with 70 votes in favor and 10 votes abstaining.
3. Dr. Davis announced that the proposal to create a Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies (GSWS) passed the College vote and is moving to the University level. The Clarifications to the Tenure and Promotion instructions also passed and is moving to the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
4. Dr. David Richardson, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences reported on the state of the College given the challenges of coronavirus
 - Summer A, B, & C will all be online; Summer B pushed back by a week; summer enrollments going very well
 - Spring graduation has been postponed to July, but it is unclear whether we can hold those events
 - This semester, supported by all Deans in the University, the Provost is offering S/U grading and the option to withdraw to help alleviate student stress.
 - While Fall plans have not yet been announced, we will not be able to come back in person as if nothing had happened. Working groups are developing plans for return.
 - There is a request to delay the formal start date of Quest 2 by one year.
 - Typically offers for graduate slots go out early in the Spring. The Provost has approved for us to continue normal grad admissions process, as long as we stay within our OPS budget targets. No impacts on Grad School Fellowships (GSFAs).
 - The hiring pause has created some disruption in the progress of faculty hiring. The number of faculty hires was significant but not large. We can un-pause certain searches, but not those that require large start up packages. Searches that have been completed and startups will be honored. We cannot pre-approve or roll over this year's authorizations for next year because we don't know about the state budget allocations.
 - The Dean will start meeting with groups of staff in town halls. Will also double frequency of Chairs and Directors meetings to 2/month.
 - Our students are terrific, but many have run into significant challenges during this transition. Sometimes money and resources can help. Aid-a-Gator fund can help. As of last week, it had provided \$1.2 million to over 1000 students. Engaged with alumni to request donations. Will also solicit funds to support students for *Beyond120*.

5. Committee Chairs presented their reports

Finance Committee presented by Selman Hershfield

- Created template on use of OPS funds in College
- Created spreadsheet for Chairs and Directors to capture TA duties, also RA, etc.
- Should produce a manageable quantity of data

CLAS Faculty Council presented by Andréa Caloiaro

- Revisions to new Gator Evals
- Brought to fruition changes to Keene Faculty Center
- Continue faculty mentoring activities
- New: reviewed T&P guidelines and GSWS department proposal; drafted guidelines for applying for department status; conducted two surveys of faculty; working toward improving student mental health

Tenure and Promotion presented by Stephen Perz

- Reviewed 33 cases (evenly distributed across divisions), and covering all ranks and titles
- Participated in review of T&P guidelines clarifications

Curriculum presented by Kellie Roberts

- Almost 60 (conditionally or) approved new courses
- ~40 recycled courses
- 30 modifications to courses or programs
- Only a couple of denials; submissions missing major items or using older forms
- Updated form for submitting has made things go through more smoothly
- Approved a number of new majors, minors, certificates, and concentrations

Nominating Committee presented by Angela Bacsik

- Reviewed current nominees and open slots on the slates for College committees
- nominations still needed

6. Dr. Davis called for new business; because there was none, the meeting was adjourned.