

Minutes CLAS Finance Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 2018

160 Pugh Hall, 12:50PM

In attendance: Michael Gorham, Selman Hershfield, James Hobert, Jodi Lane, Trish Travis, Stephen Perz, Ratreewayland; Uma Sethuram, Peter Weylan

Meeting called to order at 12:50pm. The minutes of the January 25 meeting were approved.

The committee agreed to interview the chairs in our college with questions about the new 0.5 FTE grad-student policy for incoming doctoral students supported on state-funded OPS. Uma Sethuram clarified that 0.5 FTE corresponds to 20 hours per week.

A list of the departments that each committee member is responsible for has been created. The questions that will be asked the chairs are:

1. How significant a concern is the increase to 0.5 FTE for incoming OPS supported students? Is it something that can be dealt with internally?
2. Would it create complications for your unit? If so, what kind?
3. What sort of policies, practices, and/or assistance would be useful to have from the College Office to ensure units have the flexibility they need for making the transition?

The discussion next moved to OPS funding to departments in the college. Peter Weylan explained that for stability and planning purposes there is a fair amount of inertia in the system. The following six items are taken into consideration in deciding OPS funding to individual departments.

1. Teaching demand
2. Quality of the pool of graduate student applicants
3. Graduation rates and when graduate students leave the program
4. Research and scholarly reputation of the department
5. Hiring potential for Ph.D. students
6. Who the department is competing with for graduate students

At the meeting, the committee was not sure whether we should also discuss OPS funding in our chairs' interviews. We have since been notified that the Dean will discuss OPS funding at a Chairs/Directors meeting. The committee is only responsible for compiling the results of our interviews on the new 0.5 FTE requirement.

The meeting adjourns at 1:50pm.

Minutes submitted by Selman Hershfield on February 26, 2018.