

Spring 2023 CLAS Faculty Assembly

Minutes

10 April 2023

Keene Faculty Center

Submitted by Dr. Suzanne Robbins, Secretary to the CLAS Faculty Assembly

1 CALL TO ORDER & CHAIR'S WELCOME:

Dr. Stephanie Bogart, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, called the meeting to order at 3:01, introduced herself and welcomed everyone to the Fall Assembly. Approximately forty-two (42) persons were present.

2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE SPRING 2022 ASSEMBLY

Ben Smith made a motion to approve minutes, with Tom Knight seconding. The minutes were approved unanimously via voice vote.

3 ADDRESS TO THE FACULTY, DR. DAVID RICHARDSON, DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Dean Richardson gave a warm welcome to the faculty. His address focused on academic freedom in higher education, introducing the idea that College needs to be proactive in defining what it means. He noted that the public does not necessarily understand what academic freedom means, that defines who we are and our purpose, standards and responsibilities. He noted the importance of clearly articulated standards and responsibilities to giving rise to confidence to those whom we serve.

4 PRESENTATION OF THE CLAS DRAFT DOCUMENT ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM: DR. BRENT HENDERSON

Dr. Henderson walked the Assembly through the document, noting its purpose as a public facing document. He asked for a show of support for the document, which was near unanimous.

5 UPDATES FROM COMMITTEES

- Finance Committee –Dr. Thomas Knight
 - Primary focus: graduate student funding
 - Identifying peer programs
 - Making comparisons across programs
 - Data collection next spring
- Constitution Committee: Dr. Michael Martinez

- No current amendments on the ballot
 - In the future, titles in the CLAS Constitution changed for non-tenure track faculty, but must wait until next collective bargaining agreement
- Faculty Council – Dr. Brent Henderson:
 - Discussed mentoring, T& P workshops
 - Planning peer teaching assessments
 - Worked to improve shared governance across the university
 - Continued to advise Dean Richardson on multiple issues.
- Curriculum Committee – Dr. Konstantina Christodouloupoulou:
 - Discussed the work of the committee, including new courses, modifications, and program proposals.
 - Noted the work on Quest I and Quest II
 - Advised those seeking new courses/modifications to review the checklist
- Undergraduate Coordinator/Advising: Dr. Youssef Haddad
 - Working to standardize a model semester plan for all majors; on hold while the legislature makes decision regarding general education.
- Nominating Committee – Dr. Rossi
 - Noted the upcoming elections, called for additional nominations

6 NEW BUSINESS

Question from the audience: when will President Sasse meet with the faculty (attend the Assembly)?

Stephanie Bogart adjourned the Assembly at 3:34 pm, at which point the reception began.