

FALL 2020 CLAS Faculty Assembly Minutes
November 20, 2020
Online via Zoom
submitted by Dr. Alyssa Zucker, Secretary to the CLAS Faculty

1. Dr. Aida Hozic, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, called the meeting to order.
2. The minutes from the Spring 2020 assembly were approved in a poll with 76 votes in favor and 23 votes abstaining.
3. Dr. David Richardson, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, reported on the state of the College given the challenges of coronavirus.
 - Early in the pandemic we developed two goals and have now added a third:
 1. Do everything we can to maintain student progress toward degrees. Prepare them to meet challenges they will face upon graduation.
 2. Keep people safe.
 3. Keep programs, faculty, staff, and student body intact, and as strong and productive as they have been, for the years ahead. This means avoiding layoffs.
 - This is most fraught situation we've ever encountered as students and faculty. Despite this, I remain optimistic about the power of higher education to help build a new economy and the world.
 - The President and Provost requested that we increase face to face (f2f) instruction in Spring 2021, but also follow CDC guidelines about occupancy in classrooms and require face coverings. Therefore, ~15-20% of seats will be f2f, with the remainder of students attending remotely.
 - There are many questions about ADA accommodations for faculty. There are many who should not be in classrooms. Extraordinary steps should be taken to minimize their exposure to the public. Many have applied for a COVID accommodation. To date, 37 requests have been granted and more are to come.
 - We have watched the numbers of COVID-19 infections rise and fall locally and globally. The Deans are in regular discussions with the COVID response group.
 - The Dean then addressed questions from the faculty.
4. Dr. Hozic invited the new CLAS faculty to introduce themselves.
5. Dr. Hozic adjourned the meeting.