

Spring 2021 CLAS Faculty Assembly Minutes  
April 19, 2021  
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 and thanked the CLAS faculty for bravely carrying out our duties during the pandemic year. She reported that the proposal for the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Studies Research to obtain department status has advanced past the College-level review and has been submitted for UCC approval.
2. The minutes from the Fall 2020 assembly were approved in a poll with 56 votes in favor and 11 votes abstaining.
3. Dr. David Richardson, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, discussed faculty governance projects we might engage in next year and beyond.
  - **Graduate education**  
Work with faculty and units to develop new paradigms for graduate education in our college. We do a lot correctly but are faced with external challenges. This is an area of substantial discussion with AAU colleagues.
  - **Undergraduate education**  
Students are increasingly challenged when they leave UF. We are challenged to produce education that meets the needs of our stakeholders across the state. [shared slides: 9 expectations of successful students] We now share responsibility for professional development with the Career Connections Center. Currently addressed by Academic Advising Center, student organizations, *Beyond120*. We’re at about 90% graduation rate for FTIC students. Could add *Inside120* to focus on writing, presenting, communicating with data, cross-cultural diversity.
  - **AI/Communicating with Data**  
We’re in the midst of 15 AI-related searches now.
  - **Fiscal difficulties**  
Right now, damage is to grad programs and it is not pandemic-related. Will see budget implications when legislative session ends. Grad education has been impacted by Distance Learning fees. Can no longer charge these fees that pay for TAs. Lost about \$2.8 million for next year. Provost has helped with shortfall but it’s a bridge into a future when those funds won’t be available. Grad school fellowships program overspent this year. Will be restructured. Provost provided bridge funding there too.
  - **Infrastructure**  
Need to invest more in staff, infrastructure, facilities improvements. Need to reach understanding about nature of remote employment at university. Return to campus beginning Summer B. What is future of remote employment? Concerns about cohesiveness and meeting people’s needs.
4. Committee Chairs presented their reports
  - Tenure and Promotion Committee** presented by Dr. Gail Fanucci
    - Reviewed 46 cases (there were 33 previous year)
      - 14 Humanities, 16 each Natural Sciences and Mathematics and Social Sciences
      - 12 Tenure and Promotion
      - 13 Associate Professor to Professor

- 12 Lecturer to Senior Lecturer
- 7 Senior Lecturer to Master Lecturer
- 1 clinical professor and 1 tenure without promotion
- Discussed and presented cases in gender neutral format

**Constitution Committee** presented by Dr. Michael Martinez

In current constitution, Non-Tenure-Track and untenured faculty are ineligible to vote for Dept. Chair Search Committee. Proposing to change to include faculty with partial or full appointment in the unit (excluding visiting or adjunct). Unanimous support from committee. Presenting here for information and discussion. Will vote next week.

**Curriculum Committee** presented by Dr. Darryl Chamberlain

- Met 14 times this year
- Reviewed 164 proposals and approved 94 of them.

**Finance Committee** presented by Dr. Eric Potsdam

- Met almost twice as often in past.
- Multi-year effort evaluating OPS funds distributed to depts, largely to support grad students who are supporting undergrad teaching needs. Questionnaire was distributed to depts in Fall 2020. Lack of consistency across units about duties assigned to grad students. Made grad student workload profiles to be used in future requests. Next step: have chairs and directors resubmit OPS requests with new profiles.

**Nominating Committee** presented by Dr. Galia Hatav

Provided nominees for all open positions. Some difficulties with T&P. Accepting more nominations from the floor.

**Diversity and Inclusion Committee** presented by Dr. Eleni Bozia

- Committee was founded in 2016
- DEI is not just about hiring process. Focus on short- and long-term goals. Finalizing mission statement to help with long-term goals about research, teaching, and service.

**Faculty Council** presented by Dr. Stephanie Bogart

- Continued initiatives: mentoring programs for junior faculty; changes to student evaluation system; revising surveys for chairs, dean, ADs; updating process for applying for department status
- This was an impactful year for the committee as they dealt with potential furloughs, spring hy-flex teaching, and the gator safe app
- New initiatives included promoting and collaborating with the DEI committee and presenting the NTT title proposal in senate

5. Dr. Hozic called for new business; because there was none, the meeting was adjourned.