College of Liberal Arts and Sciences—Faculty Council Meeting
November 03, 2016

Members Present: John Klein, Larry Lombard, Barry Lyons, David Merolla, Claudio Verani, Lisa Maruca, Charles Parrish, Tausha Beardsley, Ed Golenberg, Lara Jones, Zachary Brewster, Aaron Retish, Brad Smith, Kyu-Nahm Jun

Attending: Wayne Raskind (via FaceTime), Heather Dillaway, Peter Hoffmann, Ratna Naik, Caroline Brzuchowski, Paul Clemens, Anne Duggan, Laura Kline

Absent With Notice: Kevin Cotter, Ashis Mukhopadhyay, Avis Vidal, John Santalucia

The meeting was called to order at 9:05

The minutes of the October 06, 2016 meeting were approved.

Peter Hoffmann spoke of the CLAS student recruitment tours and of the need for faculty volunteers. He asked for CLAS Teaching Award nominations, due November 11. He noted the survey sent out regarding faculty research, which the dean’s office wants to use to help facilitate collaborations, and of the research consultations available to faculty.

Heather Dillaway presented the revisions to the Religious Studies minor, which were approved. Dillaway, along with Anne Duggan and Laura Kline, spoke of the revisions to the Russian concentration in the Slavic Studies major, which were approved. Dillaway and Duggan spoke of the proposed moratorium in the M.A. in Language Learning (MALL) program, also approved.

Wayne Raskind, via FaceTime, provided college updates. Charles Parrish asked the dean about the CLAS response to the proposed General Education revisions from Monica Brockmeyer’s committee, saying that he hadn’t seen such a response and that there needs to be an organized effort to gauge how the changes would affect the college’s budget and its graduate programs.

Raskind said that he had given input to Brockmeyer and that General Education means different things to different people. He said that he didn’t know what the budgetary implications would be from any of the proposed changes. He said his foremost concern, when it comes to General Education, is figuring out what it is that students should take. He added that too much of the current General Education curriculum was taught by part-time faculty.

A lengthy discussion followed about the relationship, or not, between credit hour production and resources; about which courses do and do not appear on the proposed list of new General Education courses; and about the process, or lack thereof, when the Math Competency requirement was suspended. The dean said that, while he’s not thrilled with the current proposal, he does not think that the General Education status quo is sustainable.
There was a request to invite Monica Brockmeyer and Tom Fischer, who led the committee that made the proposed General Education changes, to the next Faculty Council meeting.

Claudio Verani spoke of the CLAS elections committee and the need for candidates and Caroline Brzuchowski noted that the 2017 CLAS elections will start earlier than usual—January, rather than March.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20.