**CLA FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Anatol Center & [Zoom](file:////Users/chriskaradjov/Dropbox/BUREAUCRACY/Faculty%20Council/(https:/csulb.zoom.us/j/86496727505%3fpwd=azhGYWtkSXg0TXNVWThCODlsVzVYQT09))

1. Call to Order
2. Meeting called to order at 3:37pm by Chris Karadjov
3. In Attendance:
   * In-Person: Chris Karadjov (JPR), Emily Schryer (Human Development), Barbara LeMaster (Anthropology & Linguistics), Maddie Liseblad (Journalism & Public Relations), Jeff Blutinger (Jewish Studies), Rajbir Judge (History), Marie Jayasekera (PHIL), Jessica Brooks (Classics), Araceli Esparza (English), Rezenet Moges-Riedel (ASLD), Aparna Nayak (RGRLL), Ann Kim (Human Development), Dmitrii Sidorov (Geography), Anand Commissiong (POLSCI), Steven Osuna (SOC), Martha Franco (SOC), Tom Do (English), Ann Tran (AAAS), Gabriel Estrada (RST), Gwen Shaffer (JPR), Maricela Correa (Psychology), Adrià Martín-Mor (RGRLL), Janet Muñiz (SOC), Ali Iḡmen (Guest – History)
   * Over Zoom: Jolene McCall (International Studies), Lily House-Peters (Geography/ESP), Kimberly Robertson (American Indian Studies), Sabrina Alimahomed (Sociology), Crystal Lie (CWL), Karissa Miller (Psychology), Stephanie Hartzell (COMM), Steven Rousso-Schindler (ANTH), Dario Valles (CHLS), Yuping Mao (COMM), Karissa Miller (Psychology), Moyang Li (English), Alice Nicholas (AFRS), CJ Murphy (SOC), Paul Laris (Geography)
4. Approval of Agenda
   * Jeff Blutinger motioned to approve the agenda. Seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.
5. Approval of Minutes from March 6, 2024
   * + Motion to approve the minutes from March 6th, 2024 by Jeff Blutinger. Seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.
6. Reports
   1. Dean’s Report (Dean Deborah Thien)

* Prior to the break, a distressing anonymous poster campaign targeted a colleague in CLA. It is important to emphasize that as a college of liberal arts, our values are to engage in and to hold diverse and divergent perspectives. We must make sure our colleagues and students are respected and protected to explore different values and ideas, even if we disagree.
* The dean is currently reading RTP files right now. She commends the collective rich work our faculty are undertaking.
* The dean thanked the council and the CLASP working group for working on proposed revisions to the CLA policy. She invited all to read the policy revisions closely and to weigh in. The policy is a guide to preparing files; and a guide for the evaluators reviewing faculty files. This means it must offer guidance that is clear, actionable, implementable, and assessable.
* CLA will have 10 new colleagues this Fall after 10 successful searches. Congrats to all involved. CLA has been authorized for 6 new searches this year for Fall 2025 start date. This low number reflects state budgetary conditions and means most departments will not receive a new hire in 2025.
* AB 928 creates a one-track model for all incoming students (FTFY and Transfer). The CLASP working group shared their findings on college level SLOs with CLA chairs and directors to inform discussion of ‘CLA Signature Units’ as one possible action we can take to assert agency over our curriculum and to deliver the education we believe our students need and deserve.
  1. FC Chair Report (Chris Karadjov)
* There are 3 big tasks in front of FC: changes to the RSCA policy, the revisions to the College RTP policy document, and changes to the constitution. Voting on the RTP document will take place in the fall. Changes to the constitution will occur through one of the processes laid out in the constitution.
* The first reading of revisions to the RSCA policy documents is happening today. Today we will be going through the changes to the policy documents but we will not be voting on it. That will happen after the second reading. Questions and suggested amendments should be submitted before the second reading. Amendments can be sent to Araceli Esparza and Steven Osuna. Questions and discussion can be done through the discussion board on Canvas.

1. New Business
   1. RSCA Revisions – First Reading (Araceli Esparza and Steven Osuna)

* Araceli Esparza and Steven Osuna reviewed the timeline for the changes the RSCA policy and described the consultation process. They noted that the RSCA policy changes being presented today were also presented and received feedback from Faculty Council in 2023.
* They described the goal of the CLASP committee charged with making these edits, and defined the concept of equity which forms the basis of this work. The documents being changed include both the RSCA policy document and the RSCA application.
* The process of changing the RSCA documents will proceed as follows as per the policy and practices followed by Academic Senate:
  + The **First Reading** is an introduction of the policy. No amendments will be accepted during the first reading. The CLASP committee will explain what the changes from previous versions are and there will be a general discussion and question period about the proposed policy.
  + The **Second Reading** will take place on May 1st. At this point, amendments will be entertained (but not questions or discussion outside of amendments).  Amendments must be submitted to Araceli Esparza and Steven Osuna no later than 8am on May 1st. Amendments will not be accepted from the floor during the meeting. Speakers on amendments are limited to a maximum of three in favor and three opposed, which again speeds up the process.
  + FC will be proceeding through the document ad seriatim (line-by-line) moving forward, and once we move beyond a line we can’t go back and amend that.
  + Once the **Second Reading** is complete, FC can debate the policy as a whole, as it stands after all the amendments.
  + As long as there is quorum, all votes will be by simple majority.
* Revisions on the RSCA AT Application criteria are focused on the following areas:
  + The “Anticipated outcomes, goals, and impact of the activity” description has been revised in order to expand the types of projects that are fundable. The current language does not account for community engaged-research, editorial work, or creative activities.
  + The “Faculty History” criteria has been revised to allow applicants to explain gaps in RSCA outcomes. The goal is to ensure that those who have not had access to resources or have had unique life circumstances are not disadvantaged in the application process.
  + Language throughout the application has been edited for clarity and consistency. For example, the term scholarship has been replaced with scholarly when writing Research, Scholarly, and Creative Activities, among other editorial revisions.
* Revisions to the RSCA policy documents are focused on the following issues:
  + Aligning the policy with recommended RSCA Application and Criteria revisions.
  + Making it clear that community engaged-research is valued as a type of research and scholarly activity.
  + Providing guidance on how gaps in research should be evaluated in order to avoid disadvantaging faculty.
  + Revising language for clarity, consistency, and gender neutrality.
* A line-by-line reading of the proposed revisions to the RSCA Application was conducted by the CLASP committee, highlighting and explaining the proposed changes.
  + Discussion ensued.
* A line-by-line reading of the proposed revisions to the RSCA Policy document was conducted by the CLASP committee, describing and explaining the proposed changes.
  + Discussion ensued.
* Please see the original document with the proposed revisions on the CLA Faculty Council Canvas site.
* Anand Commissiong motioned to close the first reading of the proposed RSCA policy and application documents. Seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

1. Meeting adjourned by Chris Karadjov at 5pm.