**CLA FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

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

LA 2, Room 200

1. Call to Order
2. Meeting called to order at 3:34pm by Vice-Chair Jolene McCall

Motioned by Jessica Brooks

Motion seconded.

1. In Attendance: Adrià Martín-Mor (RGRLL), Paul Laris (Geography), Alice Nicholas (Africana Studies), Emily Schryer (Human Development), Yuping Mao (Communication Studies), Chris Rosales (Chicanx/Latinx Studies), Azza Basarudin (WGSS), Jolene McCall (International Studies), Jessica Brooks (Classics), Barbara LeMaster (Linguistics), Lily House-Peters (Geography/ESP), Aparna Nayak (RGRLL), Maddie Liseblad (Journalism & Public Relations), Araceli Esparza (English), Gabriel Estrada (Religious Studies), May Lin (AAAS), Tina Matuchniak (English), Jeff Blutinger (Jewish Studies), Margaret Kuo (History), Crystal Lie (CWL), Araceli Gonzalez (Psychology), Christine Whitcraft (Environmental Science & Policy Program), Raven Pfister (COMM), Manny Pulido (COMM), Tom Do (English), Chris Karadjov (JPR), Darin Dewitt (POSC), Charles Mahoney (POSC), Yousef Baker (I/ST Global Mideast Minor), Karissa Miller (Psych), Maricela Correa (Psych), Moyang Li (English), Rene Trevino (English), Ann Tran (AAAS), Rezenet Moges-Riedel (ASLD), Marie Jayasekera (Philosophy), Janet Muñiz (Sociology), Ulices Piña (History), Preeti Sharma (American Studies), Kimberly Robertson (American Indian Studies), Sabrina Alimahomed (WGSS), Rajbir Singh Judge (History), Brett Mizelle (American Studies)
2. Approval of Agenda

* Motion to add an item regarding the recent call for nominations of the Faculty Council Chair

Motioned by Sabrina Alimahomed

Motion seconded.

* Motion to remove the original item 5d (Call for Nominations to DEI committee) from the agenda.

Motion to approve with the amendments above by Jessica Brooks

Motion seconded.

1. Approval of Minutes from May 5, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes from May 5 by Jessica Brooks

Motion seconded.

1. Reports
   * Dean’s report (Dean Deborah Thien)
2. Hires: A total of 21 requests for tenure-track positions were made in total and 10 requests were approved by the Provost. The departments with searches underway include:
   * ANTH: Design Anthropology/Digital Ethnography
   * CHLS: Latino/a Community Health
   * CWL: Visual Studies/Digital Humanities and Critical Race Theory
   * ECON: Applied Microeconomics with specialty in Development Economics
   * GEOG: Remote Sensing and Digital Image Processing
   * JPR: Data Analytics and AI in Journalism
   * POSC: Political Theory
   * PSY: Behavioral Neuroscience (Biopsychology)
   * RGRLL: Latin American Literary and Cultural Studies, 19th-21st centuries, focus on Mexico and/or Central America
   * SOC: Sociology of Digital Media and Cultures
3. Associate Dean Search: The search for an Associate Dean of Personnel and Curriculum is ongoing, and will be closing 9/12. Thank you to the committee for your work.
4. Travel Call: The Travel Call is now out. A question was raised about the time frame of the call— as always, there is a retroactive opportunity for funding a summer conference already attended as long as you completed a travel request. You must always complete a travel request for any work-related travel even if the cost to institution is $0.
5. Strategic Communications Report: The report from the College Strategic Communications has been received. The main recommendation is to overhaul CLA website/college webspace. This recommendation is under review.
6. Report on DEIA consultancy: A draft report and draft position description for a DEIA directorship in the College have been received. The report and position description are currently under review. Our college’s leadership and expertise in this area is of interest to the other colleges, given that we have no university level Chief Diversity Officer.
7. Enrollment: Here are the current numbers with regard to enrollment:
   * There are currently 40,150 students on campus (a new campus record)
   * Of these, 5,800 are new FTFY students (also a new campus record). Of these, 887 are in CLA
   * There are also 4,700 new transfer students. This represents a 20% decline from last year. 1,381 of these students are in CLA.

The campus is admitting a larger FTFY class to compensate for lower transfer enrollments. What this means is that some lower-division courses are packed while some upper-division courses are not. Retention is crucial! We want our FTFY students to continue into our upper division. Beach XP is an example of campus-wide initiatives designed to retain FTFY students and promote their success.

1. Commencement 2024: The President has determined commencement ceremonies will take place at Angel Stadium in 2024. Student leadership key concerns have been addressed. Students will have the opportunity to walk across the stage and their names will be read. This means the CLA ceremonies will be quite long, but this is of great importance to our students. We also want to have a welcoming environment for faculty, there were some issues this past year. This may include designating faculty entranceways, sitting with students, having food available, etc.. Ideas and feedback are welcome.
2. Academic Senate: Thank you to all new and returning senators and thanks to all of you who are serving on committees and councils via that larger body. Last year the college offered a regular meeting space for senators to discuss agenda topics. We can do this again if senators wish.
   * CLA Thematic Initiative (Sabrina Alimahomed-Wilson)

* The new CLA Thematic Initiative is focusing on Transnational Feminist Solidarities. The proposal for this initiative was developed in collaboration by a collective of scholars across disciplines. This theme encourages and enables an exploration of different forms of feminism across multiple modalities. Proposals on this theme can take on multiple forms including invited speakers, reading groups, circles, workshops, film screenings, performances and art events, and community-engaged scholarship among other proposals.
* The collective that proposed this initiative includes Sabrina Alimahomed-Wilson (Professor, Sociology), Azza Basarudin (Assistant Professor, WGSS), Lori Baralt (Chair & Associate Professor, WGSS), Araceli Esparza (Associate Professor, English), and Stacy Macias (Associate Professor, WGSS)
  + CFA Updates (Lily House-Peters)
* CFA is currently at the bargaining table with the administration. There are a number of events for which we need faculty participation.
* There is an important meeting on Tuition increases scheduled for Tuesday September 12th. We need to get people out there in solidarity to fight with the students against possible tuition increases.
* We are in a moderated bargaining situation. You can read any of the emails from CFA or visit the website to see the long list of issues involved in the bargaining. When there are events from CFA, it’s important to have good faculty representation and voices. If you are available to come out, then please do so.
* There will be a Fall social on September 14 for CFA. Please come and join us.

1. New business
   * Discussion of election process for FC – Facilitated by Vice-Chair Jolene McCall & Faculty Exec.
     + A discussion of issues related to the election of the FC Chair ensued.
   * Call for nominations from the floor for Faculty Council chair (Jolene McCall)
     + Shortly after 5pm Jolene McCall presented a motion for nomination from the floor for Chair of Faculty Council
     + A request was made that the call for nominations be delayed until the October meeting.
     + Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:05pm by Jeff Blutinger
     + Motion seconded.
2. Meeting adjourned at 5:06 pm by Jolene McCall