

**College of Arts and Sciences
Assembly Meeting
February 18, 2014
Oakland Center, Oakland Room**

Members present: Andrews, Berven, K., Chapman, Cheng, E., Corso, Dulio, Dvir, Epstein, Grimm, Grossman, Martic, McDonald, Meehan, Pfeiffer, Purdue, Reger, Wiggins, Wang, Wood

Members absent: Connery, Giberson, Hansen, Hastings, Li, Lorca, Ludwig, Rigstad, Smith

Ex-officio present: Corcoran, Hitt

I. Call to Order

Dean Corcoran called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes, Meeting of October 22, 2013

The minutes of the meeting of October 22, 2013 were approved. (Andrews, Dulio)

III. College Theme

Dean Corcoran informed the Assembly that the call for CAS Theme proposals would be coming soon, and that the due date will be April 1. He noted that the theme should be a subject of value, and should have relevance to departments across the CAS. He said that discussions about the theme had resulted in the plan of having a different time table than in the past such that the theme will not begin until the year after it is selected, in order to give everyone enough time to prepare the various events.

IV. Dean's Report

- Dean Corcoran wished the new associate dean, Anne Hitt, a warm welcome to her new position.
- He informed Assembly members that there will not be a regular Assembly meeting in April, but instead an All CAS meeting to wrap up the year and to announce the theme.
- He said that the Faculty Engagement Award will be given in April this year instead of in October, as has been done in the past.
- He invited Arik Dvir, chair of the Department of Biological Sciences, to provide updates on the program of Engineering Biology, which started 7 years ago in 2007. Mr. Dvir said that the program is getting its name changed to "Bioengineering." He noted that the program has operated with a common steering committee made up of members of both Engineering and Biology and has functioned well. Dean Corcoran affirmed that by all operational measures it is truly interdisciplinary. Mr. Dvir said that recently Engineering came up with the idea of accrediting the program, which caused various considerations. The program was designed to be balanced, but a difference between Biology and Engineering is that engineers usually have accredited programs. Mr. Dvir said that Biology is interested in keeping their independence to

some extent, but he is looking at the process involved with accrediting the program. The name change to bioengineering has been approved, and it conforms better to the name of similar programs at other universities.

- Dean Corcoran noted the three focal areas for the CAS identified at the past fall's chair's retreat: 1) focus on the CAS as the heart and soul of Oakland University, 2) focus on student success, and 3) focus on engagement of the community. He underlined the importance of engagement with faculty members as a road to student success. He suggested that one idea for engaging students is to have a departmental awards event to which new majors would be invited to engage them in departmental life early on.

V. Good and Welfare

Mr. Meehan said that the meeting with Mr. Funk of the presidential search firm had taken place earlier that morning, and he recommended that the CAS be vigilant about the search because it is an important moment. He expressed his hope that faculty members will show up at the meetings and speak up to give voice to what we want the future to be. Mr. Grimm said that trust, integrity and courage were identified as important, as well as global education and shared governance. He said he believes that the academic mission of OU should be central. Mr. Andrews said that the search firm indicated there is a process in developing a candidate pool—they spoke of a 6-month time frame to work out the process. He said he would like to see candidates meet with Senate committees as a possible format for a serious search. Mr. Grimm encouraged everyone to forward to Mr. Dulio, who serves on the search committee, their ideas and hopes for what qualities they want in a president. Mr. Grimm pointed out that the search firm is also open to receiving messages. Ms. Wiggins agreed that there should be people showing up so that the candidate knows that we are interested and ready to tell what our strengths are. Dean Corcoran said that if anyone knows someone who might be a good candidate, they should make contact with that person and help to build the candidate pool.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven (secretary)