

**College of Arts and Sciences  
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY  
Tuesday, September 24, 2013  
Elliott Hall Auditorium**

**MINUTES**

**Members present:** *Berven, K., Burrington, Chapman, Cheng, Connery, Dulio, Dvir, Eptstein, Giberson, Grimm, Grossman, Hastings, LaRock, Li, Lorca, Martic, Pfeiffer, Purdie, Reger, Rigstad, Roth, Wang, Wiggins, Wood*

**Members absent:** *Corso, Eis, Hansen, Ludwig, Meehan, Smith*

**Ex-officio present:** *Corcoran, Stewart*

**I. Call to Order**

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

**II. Approval of Minutes of February 26, 2013**

The minutes of the meeting of February 26, 2013, were approved. (Wood, Dulio)

**III. Approval of recommended member for Elections Committee**

*Continuing members* of the Elections Committee are:

Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo, Modern Languages and Literatures (Humanities), 2011-2014

Kanako Taku, Psychology (Social Sciences), 2012-2015

*MOTION to approve the following new member of the Elections Committee, and the Chair of the Elections committee:* (Grimm, Lorca):

*New member:* Greg Giberson, Writing and Rhetoric (Language and Literature), 2013-2016

*Chair:* Adolfo Campoy-Cubillo

The motion was approved.

**IV. Election of Executive Committee**

*Continuing members* of the CAS Executive Committee are:

Derek Hastings, History (Humanities), 2012-2014

Greg Giberson, Writing and Rhetoric (Language/Literature), 2012-2014

Election Committee members distributed ballots pertaining to the election of the CAS Executive Committee, for which there were three vacancies. The following members were elected:

Jerry Grossman (Mathematics/Science) 2013-2015

Jo Reger (Social Sciences) 2013-2014

Eddie Cheng (At Large), 2013-2015

**V. Approval of recommended members for the Graduate Studies Committee (GSC)**

*Continuing members* of the Graduate Studies Committee are:

Kelly Hay, Communication and Journalism (At Large), 2012-2014

Andrea Knutson, English (Language/Literature), 2012-2014

Li Li, Mathematics and Statistics (At Large), 2012-2014

*Replacement member (for one semester):*

Rob Sidelinger, Communication (Language/Literature)

*MOTION to approve the following recommended new members for the Graduate Studies Committee, and Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee:* (Berven, Wood)

*New members:*

Chris Clason, Liberal Studies (Humanities), 2013-2015

Tony Shaska, Mathematics and Statistics (Mathematics/Science), 2013-2015

Julie Walters, Political Science (Social Sciences), 2013-2015

*Chair:* Kellie Hay

Mr. Grossman observed that there would be two members from Mathematics and Statistics with the above recommended new member from Math and Statistics, and he put forth the possibility that other departments should be duly represented on this committee as well in order to assure a broader representation. Mr. Stewart said that the problem is that there are few volunteers, and the Dean's office comes up with a recommended list based upon those who volunteer for this service. Ms. Wiggins noted that at the time people were volunteering, it was a different time at the university and it was a different place, so she suggested that perhaps we should ask for volunteers again and postpone the decision. Mr. Stewart said that the Dean's office would certainly like more volunteers. Dean Corcoran said we could delay making that decision, but Ms. Dykstra expressed concern about the time element, since the Assembly would not meet for another month which could be too much of a delay. Mr. Grimm suggested an amendment that would approve the list without the name of the member from Mathematics and Statistics. Mr. Connery subsequently moved to amend the motion to delete Tony Shaska from the list of new members in motion. Ms. Wood said we should be careful not to discourage volunteers from these committees, and Mr. Roth concurred that this amendment might be perceived the wrong way. Dean Corcoran called for a vote on the motion to amend the motion, but there was no support, and the amendment failed. Mr. Corcoran then called for a vote on the motion to approve the recommended slate, and there was unanimous support for the motion.

## **VI. Approval of recommended members for the Committee on Instruction (COI):**

*Continuing members* for the Committee on Instruction are:

Kapila Castoldi, Physics (At Large), 2012-2014

Adina Schneeweis, Communication and Journalism (Humanities), 2012-2014

Baruch Cahlon, Mathematics and Statistics (Mathematics/Sciences), 2012-2014

*MOTION to approve the following recommended new members for the COI, and Chair of the Committee on Instruction: (Grossman, Roth)*

New members:

Angela Kaiser, Sociology and Anthropology (At Large), 2013-2015

Rob Anderson, English (Language/Literature), 2013-2015

Marty Lewis, Psychology (Social Sciences), 2013-2015

Chair: Adina Schneeweis

The motion was approved.

## **VII. Information item: Members of the CAS Committee on Promotion for 2013-2014**

Dean Corcoran informed the Assembly that the CAS CAP members for 2013-2014 are as follows:

Thomas Discenna (At Large), 2011-2014

Darrell Schmidt (Mathematics/Science), 2011-2014

Sean Moran (Humanities), 2012-2015

Cynthia Sifonis (Social Sciences), 2013-2016

Brad Roth (Mathematics/Science), 2012-2015

Niels Herold (Language/Literature), 2013-2016

## **VIII. Stability in a time of change...**

*"There's no standing still because time is moving forward."*

*--Greg Lake*

**a) College's goals:** Dean Corcoran said that stability is not to be confused with stagnation, and that OU is moving forward, noting that he was reiterating and agrees with this thought that Interim President Betty Youngblood has repeated many times in the past weeks. He encouraged Assembly members to interact with the new Provost, pointing out that the Provost comes from an institution that uses responsibility-centered budgeting, asking questions about what the payoff is going to be, not necessarily only in financial terms, and why we would want to move forward in a certain way. Mr. Corcoran said that the College's goals developed at the Chairs' Retreat for 2013-2014 will be the following:

- Student success and rightful place: Mr. Corcoran said these goals will involve re-establishing the CAS as the heart and soul of Oakland University, focusing on being conversant with the issues in terms of intellectual power as well as the quantity of credit hours that are delivered by the CAS. He pointed out that 69% of all credit hours earned

by undergraduates are delivered by the CAS, and these credits are not just General Education. He noted that there are four departments in Varner Hall with more majors than the entire School of Engineering. He said that we need to get the word out that there are new opportunities, new openings to do things differently, and a different way to be.

- Community engagement: He said that an important goal will be to break down the barriers that surround the campus and to connect to the outside community. He wants to get conversations going between departments and to encourage service and applied learning for the community outside.

**b) Meeting of Minds:** Mr. Corcoran announced the date for Meeting of Minds (MOM), which will be May 9, 2014, on the Oakland University campus. He pointed out that since we are the host this year, it is a wonderful opportunity to engage students, and encouraged faculty members across the CAS from all disciplines to participate. The MOM fits with the goal of student success, which includes things like study abroad, presentations at conferences, and such. He emphasized that the goal is for students to have successful experiences while at OU, and MOM can be one of these.

**c) College of Arts and Sciences Theme:** Mr. Corcoran said that there is no CAS theme this year, and that the idea of a theme needs to be reenergized. He encouraged people to come forward with ideas for a theme for the future. Mr. Dulio pointed out that it has been difficult to maximize the potential of a theme because it has often been done at the last minute. He believes we should take advantage of this moment to plan ahead for a theme so that it will be a great success. Mr. Giberson recalled one very successful College-themed event when the author of the community book came to campus, with 300-400 students in attendance. Ms. Wood expressed disappointment that the program was fizzling because it had been good for the department of Art and Art History. She remembered that the CAS did used to plan ahead a few years ago, which was good. Mr. Whitehead said that there should be more transparency because when he was on the committee to decide on a theme, the committee members never knew how much money they would have. Mr. Hastings said that we should integrate ideas more into the process of what grows organically from departments. Mr. Rigstad said he thought it was great when the environment theme sparked the ecology movement on campus, and he recommended that students should have a role in the planning process. Mr. Corcoran suggested that one approach would be for the Dean's office to come up with a "meta plan," or a structure that would interconnect all the departments in order to make a long-range plan, and to organize a time line by January 1. Ms. Wiggins noted that the theme should be abstract enough so that MTD could participate. Mr. Stewart said we could gather ideas for 2015-2016, and members should tell the Dean's office what they want to do and get other departments to build on these ideas, with the Dean's office coordinating the ideas and making a structure for the theme. Mr. Corcoran said that ideas will be needed in advance, and in the next three months, there should be contact persons in each department. He asked for volunteers to begin to form a committee, and the following Assembly members volunteered:

Mr. Hastings, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Giberson, Ms. Wood, Ms. Martic.

Assembly members hoped more volunteers would step forward from throughout the CAS in the next few weeks, and Dean Corcoran asked members to spread the word in their departments. Ms. Wood recalled how the Dickens theme came about a few years ago, when the English Department was hosting a Dickens conference, and the decision was made to work this event as central to the Dickens theme. She felt that the Dickens theme was a big success that year.

#### **IX. College Updates**

Mr. Corcoran updated the Assembly on the search for associate and assistant deans and said the decisions would be announced soon.

#### **X. Good and Welfare**

Mr. Whitehead informed Assembly members about the 'lightning talks' at 5 p.m. on October 3 in the Art Gallery, at which people will make short talks of five minutes.

#### **XI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dikka Berven (Secretary)