

College of Arts and Sciences
MEETING OF THE ALL-COLLEGE ASSEMBLY
and
MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY
October 18, 2016, 3:30 p.m.
Oakland Center, Lake Superior A

Members present: Andrews, Barry, Battles, Bekele, Berven, D., Berven, K., Cheng, E., Dulio, Eis, Freed, Gooren, Guest, Herold, Lorca, Meyers, Miller, Reger, Rigstad, Roth, Spagnuolo, Tardella, Tonsing, Tucker, Walwema, Wang, Welling, Yang

Members absent: Navin, Orces, Westrick

Ex Officio present: Dean Corcoran, Associate Dean Stewart

1. Call to Order

Dean Corcoran called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the annual All-College Assembly meeting. He explained to those present that the main portion of the meeting was going to be dedicated to presentations by all of the chairpersons in the CAS, who were requested to share two main goals of their departments for this year. He asked everyone to listen for commonalities during these presentations and look for opportunities to collaborate and share information directly from department to department.

He provided an update on the OU Presidential search, noting that there was a Board of Trustees meeting the following Monday at 2:00 p.m. in Elliott Auditorium, and he encouraged everyone who could to attend.

2. Minutes of September 20, 2016

The minutes of September 20, 2016, were approved.

3. Presentation of the Marian P. Wilson Award

Dean Corcoran provided background for the Marian B. Wilson award, given every year to a faculty member of the College of Arts and Sciences to honor a meritorious book or article that reflects the high standard of literary and scholarly composition espoused by Marian Wilson during her tenure at Oakland University. Mr. Corcoran introduced Todd Estes, chair of the History Department, who presented the award to his colleague Elizabeth Shesko, whose area of specialty is Latin American history, race and ethnicity, for her article, "Mobilizing Manpower for War: Toward a New History of Bolivia's Chaco Conflict, 1932-1935]." The citation reads as follows:

Your article, "Mobilizing Manpower for War: Toward a New History of Bolivia's Chaco Conflict, 1932-1935," embodies the finest virtues of the historian's craft. Appearing in one of the top journals in your field, the article is well-framed, thoroughly researched, and elegantly written. It incorporates important new archival materials and offers a deeply insightful account of the

recruitment and wartime experiences of indigenous conscripts in the Bolivian military. Ultimately, in arguing that the government was more successful in mobilizing wartime manpower resources than previously recognized, you make a significant contribution to our understanding of the Bolivian state during a pivotal moment in its history. We are therefore pleased to recognize and honor the exemplary nature of your work.

4. Departmental Goals (Chairs)

Dean Corcoran invited the CAS Chairpersons (or their representatives) to make their three-minute presentations to summarize two goals that will be the focus of their departments for this academic year, noting that these goals should specifically relate to the university's stated goals in the areas of teaching, research and community engagement.

**For summaries of these presentations, please go to the power point presentations attached to these minutes.*

Following the presentations, Dean Corcoran thanked CAS faculty members for coming to the All-College Assembly meeting and excused non-Assembly members from the rest of the meeting. Assembly members stayed to conclude the regular business on the agenda.

5. Motion on Oakland University's Grading System

Dean Corcoran provided an update on potential changes to the university's grading policy and expressed his concern that the process for exploring the change had stalled. He said that it was not known how much a change in the grading policy would cost as far as making the changes in Banner, but he did not think this should stop the process from moving along. He expressed his hope that the other schools at the university would pick up the topic and help to get the process moving again. Mr. Andrews recalled that a Task Force had been formed to discuss this issue, and he asked what their recommendations had been. Mr. Corcoran replied that this committee had met from November 2015 to March 2016, but the conversations had come to a halt in March. He reiterated that the problem appeared to be trying to find out how much it would cost to change the grading system in Banner.

The following **Resolution** was put forward: (Guest, Miller)

Whereas the task force convened to explore changes to the Oakland University grading policy has identified a number of key issues and made a number of specific recommendations.

Whereas information appeared in The Oakland Post (April 11, 2016; <http://oaklandpostonline.com/916/campus/new-grading-system-pending-approval-for-fall-2017/>) indicating that a change of the grade policy was pending approval for implementation in Fall 2017.

Whereas we have no evidence that such proposal has been forwarded for discussion or review.

RESOLVED that the Assembly for the College of Arts and Sciences:

- a) *Urges the task force studying grade scale changes to forward a recommendation that Oakland University begin using a letter grading scale and to display this clearly on all of its transcripts.*
- b) *Urges the task force to recommend that Oakland University use the 3 tenths of a point scale for internal conversion to calculate grade point averages.*
- c) *Urges the task force to encourage these changes be implemented in Fall 2017.*
- d) *Urges that the task force be instructed to be proactive in moving these critically important recommendations through the governance process at Oakland University immediately.*
- e) *Urges the task force to complete the task of moving these recommendations through the governance process even if they must include a clause indicating that such actions will be implemented when funding, if needed, is secured.*
- f) *Urges the faculty in the professional schools to join us in adopting their own resolutions supporting the student body in seeking these changes to the grade scale used at Oakland University.*

The resolution passed unanimously.

**6. Proposal for a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Pedagogy
Proposal for a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Education and Performance**

Proposals for a Bachelor of Arts in Dance Pedagogy and a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance Education and Performance were put forward for first readings.

There were no questions or comments.

**7. Proposal for a Bachelor of Music in Piano Pedagogy
Proposal for a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy**

Proposals for a Bachelor of Music in Piano Pedagogy and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance and Pedagogy were put forward for first readings.

There were no questions or comments.

8. Adjournment

Dean Corcoran adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dikka Berven (secretary)