

Minutes

Arts and Humanities Collegiate Council

10 Sept 2010

Present: Dean James Harris, ARHU; Chip Richardson, ARTT; Anthony Colantuono, ARTH; David Olson, TDPS; Alexander Williams, LING; Samuel Kerstein, PHIL; Katie King, WMST; Jeffrey McCune, AMST; Kristy Maddux, COMM; Leigh Smiley, THET.

Review of 30 April 2010 Minutes:

Katie noted 3 errors: In attendance section, Women's Studies should be abbreviated WMST (not WAST); in Reports section Hassan Elahi's name is misspelled as "Alahi"; and, in Elections section, Katie herself is NOT going off the Collegiate Council.

Corrected Minutes Approved.

Announcements:

-Chip Richardson will be CC president for Fall 2010; Sam will take over in Spring 2011.

Discussion of CC meeting time for 2010-11

-Fridays?

-Yes, we'll keep it as is; last Friday of the month at 1PM, then make exceptions where needed.

-next is 29 October

-then 19 November

-10 December

Dean's Remarks:

-News: New president for UM, Wallace Loh. Explanation of his background. Highly articulate, has dealt with many issues that we face here at UM. He has not yet set out a "vision." Will visit colleges, faculties. We could invite him to CC – we should consider this.

-Budget Re-Allocations: We asked for well over \$1,000,000 for college budget. Each unit gives ARHU 1% of budget (= \$468,000), and another 1% to Provost for total of 2%. We asked for many things over 3 years. Provost had \$3,000,000 to give out; we got \$692,000 (47%). We asked for money to support grad programs, + (less emphasis) hiring where we already had a strong track record. But this de-emphasis on hiring has to be on a case by case basis – some units may be hiring more urgently than others. Our Digital Humanities hire was particularly important; Latin American (Art History), etc. This year we may be asking for a hire in Film Studies. We will never eliminate the use of TAs, but we'll try to reduce numbers and give higher support. ARHU asked for \$500,000 in Professional Development for grad students, got \$167,000, out of the Provost's soft budget; we add ARHU's contribution of \$20,000 and will distribute – should make for a big increase in money for grads. Out of ARHU's \$468,000, some went to ARHU Student Affairs for new staff.

The new searches:

- Film Studies (there will be a joint search committee; the Dean anticipates two appointments in two different units – idea is to hire two people whose selection is coordinated, consistent, thus

producing readymade colleagues). The Film search model works well, highly desirable, effective, will build on Film's prior initiatives. The Digital Humanities search turned up +/- 300 applications, and the Film search may be comparable given the market.

- There will be individual searches in COMM, PHIL, WMST; departments should tell the Dean how much they can share the cost of the hire, if they are able.

ARHU is still in the black, but not by big margin. We don't know what will happen with the budget this year, and even after the election it'll be a while before we know anything. We do know State revenue collections in MD have been poor, unemployment is flat. Who knows? But APAC's already planning for next year.

The ARHU Convocation is Tuesday, September 14th at 3:30. Meet new professors, faculty/staff/student awards will be announced. Please come.

Chip Richardson: Can we work on invitation for President Loh?

Dean Harris: Try T, W, or TH after 3PM, can hope to get reasonable turnout. We'll need a larger venue, try Performing Arts, maybe Gildenhorn? Ask Susie Farr?

Leigh Smiley: Contact Nicholas Roberts, scheduler for CSPAC

Jim: Need to determine dates when Gildenhorn available

APT 2010-11: Ken Holum, Carmen Balthrop, Lillian Doherty, Chris Morris, Laura Rosenthal; Jim meets with APT, but is silent except on process questions. Have five new members on the committee this year.

PCC: Beth Loizeaux chairing, Maud Casey, Sue Dwyer, Jim Fry, Maxine Grossman, Wendy Jacobs (as ART), Yelena Luckert

Old Business

Chip: Any unfinished business? No.

New Business

- General Education status: Admin Council will be presenting to us a timetable prepared by Undergraduate Studies, showing the schedule of implementation. Oral Communication, analytic reasoning, diversity (most important, least formed), professional partnering, i-courses (up and running), writing board (up and running). Departments are being asked to consider, intellectually, how they will play in any of these given areas. All of this will then go through ARHU, then PCC, then Campus etc; and in the end will be fought out in the senate. Timetable is unrealistic: it's supposed to be finished and in place by Fall 2011. Provost allows it might be possible to delay until Fall 2012. Many are saying it's too fast. I-courses are especially needed for courses that are very popular for broad range of non-majors.
- Discussion: Jim: without merit increases, with furloughs, etc., it's hard to ask people to hustle like this.

Kristy: What's at stake in diversity?

Jim: Currently in CORE we don't often get at the real diversity issues. WMST has some effective solutions, e.g. intercultural dialogues model. But some others do not. The new courses won't appear without great time and effort. We may be able to use some existing courses; but the I-courses cannot be re-used; they must be new. Beth Loizeaux

is working on figuring out exactly what we're being asked to do—the details are not clear.

Kristy: on Senate issue came up whether gender will really count in the new diversity requirement?

Jim: Campus has decided we need to review all university Merit Pay plans. For example, changes have been made on campus level, need to conform to the system. Campus document says that membership on salary committee has to be elected, but sometimes this is unworkable (i.e., to guarantee diversity); many of their concerns have already been addressed by recent campus review of salary procedures.

Chip: Much better idea to rotate Salary committee membership rather than elect

Katie: Yes, this guarantees everybody's educated about the process

Jim: And it helps Assistant faculty get involved & learn process.

Jim: CC will be heavily involved in all this; it's in our own plan of organization

(Jim has to leave)

Discussion concerning diversity continues:

-Some CC members feel the plan of Gen Ed is problematic, requiring departments to teach outside their discipline or to lean too heavily on the assistance of outside faculty. Something like Oral Communication is a discipline in itself; it's almost insulting to say all departments are supposed to teach it.

-In discussion, CC members agree that there are serious problems in the plans and expectations for the institution of Gen Ed. They're requiring too much administrative work, too many new courses that will replace old ones that are already working successfully. There's a general feeling that this is hardly the time for such new and extraordinary demands on faculty time, when we're not only not receiving raises but even being furloughed. Faculty are struggling just to pay their bills, so now we're supposed to use up all of our research time and creative energy to institute a program that has been hastily conceived, and in some ways seems of questionable value?

-It's asked: What can CC actually do about Gen Ed?

-There's a general feeling that we need to work on morale issues. We're all in a very ungenerous mood and we are being asked to increase our workload unreasonably without reward. There's an "economy of morale." We're being told to do Gen Ed, but we're not even being given the means to do it. Where's the money, where are the new faculty and staff that would be required to do all of this? Departments like COMM and ENGL are "getting killed" by this.

-There's also general agreement that we do not really believe the new Gen. Ed. Plan is that good an idea.

-A statement outlining the CC's objections is drafted for further discussion via e-mail.