

Minutes of the CAS Faculty Senate Meeting of December 13, 2021

December 13, 2021, 4:03 PM – 4:40 PM

Attending: James Angelini, Jennifer M. Barker, Alan Fox, Katie Gwaltney, John Morgan, John Pelesko, Eric Rise, Jenn Trivedi, Nonie Bell, Persephone Braham, Patricia Burt, Erin Cassese, Kelly Cobb, Jon Cox, Theodore Davis, Jr., Darryl Flaherty, Deni Galileo, Christine Grogan, Dominique Guillot, Eynat Gutman, Richard Hanley, Adele Hayes, Arild Hestvik, Jason Hill, J-P Laurenceau, Jenny Lobasz, Dilia Lopez-Gydosh, Nina Owczarek, Talley Ridgeway, Thomas Rocek, Vimalin Rujivacharakul, Cynthia Schmidt-Cruz, Kimberly Schroeder, Jorge Serrano, Jia Song, Daniel Stevens, Nina Straitman, Gunner Taylor, Shawna Vican, Neal Zondlo

President Barker conducted a poll indicating a quorum of senators was present. 3 non-senators were also in attendance.

The agenda was approved in full.

Those voting then approved the minutes of the November 15 meeting.

Dean John Pelesko made a short presentation. Slides from the presentation are attached here.

He issued a call for award nominations, including for CAS Faculty Awards, the Francis Alison Faculty Award, and CAS Alumni Awards.

He gave an update on undergraduate recruiting. CAS applications are up 6% from last year, with significant variation across departments. Department chairs have access to the information in more detail.

Decision days are February 26, April 9, and April 23. Information will be given to departments before the break. These will be in person events and more information will be forthcoming.

There was a survey done on the Blue and Golden Saturdays with everyone who participated. The results were great and encouraging in regard to the format changes that were made. Suggestions are being working on by events.

Planning for additional positions is in progress with guidance from the Provost. Plans from departments are being consolidated and college plans are due in late January, which CAS is on track to meet. The University will be having meetings with each college in February. The Provost is targeting May as a date for faculty searches, which is earlier than it was this year. The goal now is not to grow the faculty size, but to maintain the faculty size in light of significant retirements across the college. This will require significant hiring and it is critical to figure out how to pay for those hires, so there is work underway to refine budget projections for FY24, factoring in start up costs as well. These hires will also necessitate planning for space with delays in getting spaces renovated.

Dean Pelesko also wanted to recognize extraordinary efforts in CAS in the effort to bring 15 Afghan women to UD via CAS ELI to begin study in January.

In Q&A Dean Pelekso clarified that there are currently 70 retirements planned in CAS through FY24 and the plan is to fill those spaces, not to grow the size of the faculty.

In addition, the McKinley demolition is set to start in February 2022 with move in to begin in September 2024.

Next, Senator John Morgan spoke as the Chair of COCAN, reiterating his comments from the previous meeting and noting that he will be reaching out to members of the P&T Committee and Education Affairs Committee to see if they are willing to continue and if not, will begin soliciting new volunteers to have those committees set by January. Service on those committees comes with a recognition in member's workload agreements. He will begin soliciting volunteers for other committees beginning in January – February. Members of the P&T Committee all have to be tenured except for the CT member.

Moving into the Regular Agenda, President Barker started with items for full consideration, given the number of items involved. Some were voted on in a block if there was no necessary discussion, objections, or comments.

The African Studies Certificate had no discussion and passed unanimously.

The following bachelor's (BA) degrees had no discussion and passed unanimously as a block: Art History/Ancient Greek and Roman Studies; Art History/Chinese; Art History/French; Art History/German; Art History/Italian; Art History/Japanese; Art History/Russian; Art History/Spanish; Art History/Three Languages.

The following honors bachelor's (HBA) degrees had no comments and passed unanimously as a block: Art History/Ancient Greek and Roman Studies; Art History/Chinese; Art History/French; Art History/German; Art History/Italian; Art History/Japanese; Art History/Russian; Art History/Spanish; Art History/Three Languages.

It was asked if the impetus behind this was if students were requesting these kinds of majors.

Professor Vimalin Rujivacharakul clarified that foreign language is critical to art history and moving into graduate studies. With many students double majoring anyway and collaborations with language/literature work, this strengthens the bachelor's degree for students moving into graduate programs and helps UD keep its ranking.

The Data Science Minor had no discussion and passed unanimously.

It was asked what, if any, impact an intensive major option has on the normal non-intensive option.

Professor Persephone Braham clarified that years ago the language credits were lowered for the bachelor's degree options to allow for easier double majoring and they continue to have many students who double or triple major. In this process, however, some upper-level intensive courses were lost. Since then, there has been demonstrated demand for students who want more intensive upper-level courses without the option to double or triple majors.

It was asked if the naming model was standard at other universities.

Professor Braham said that it is, noting that “intensive language studies” is a common currency in the field, implying a deeper commitment to fluency, reading literature, connection to culture, etc.

The following bachelor’s (BA) degrees passed unanimously as a block: Intensive French Studies; Intensive Italian Studies.

The following honors bachelor’s (HBA) degrees passed unanimously as a block: Intensive French Studies Honors; Intensive Italian Studies Honors.

The Psychological and Brain Sciences (MS) Shared Core had no discussion and passed unanimously.

The disestablishment of the Psychology (MA) had no discussion and passed unanimously.

The consent agenda had no discussion passed unanimously. The full list of 90 minors, minor requirements, concentrations, field electives, bachelor’s degrees, master’s degrees, doctoral degrees, shared cores, and courses can be found in the December 2021 agenda.

We then returned to questions for Dean Pelesko.

There was a discussion of increasing funds for start-up funds due to inflation, including the issues from 2 years of no F&A sharing with departments (which they rely on for start-up funds). Previously the expectation had been that departments could handle their 20% of start-up funds, but that can no longer be assumed, so that is being handled on a case-by-case basis now and it will likely take several years to settle back down.

There was discussion of how graduate students are feeling the pressure of price raises. Related to this and other faculty discussions, it was discussed how assistant professors need good graduate students and support resources.

There was discussion of how the university plans to increase student enrollment will balance with the plan to maintain pre-pandemic faculty levels. It was clarified that plans to promote undergraduate recruitment were tied to restoring pre-pandemic enrollment, not growing beyond that. It was also clarified that the goal is currently to keep the faculty size at its current levels in planning for the next FY, not to keep it at that size permanently. Furthermore, other losses like people leaving for other universities, are being factored in here, but retirements are simply likely to be the biggest source of losses.

No new business was introduced.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 PM ET.

The background features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the University of Delaware seal. The seal is circular and contains an open book with the following text on its pages: 'GRAMM PHILOL RHETOR ETHICA' on the left and 'METAPH LOGICA MATHEM PHYSICA' on the right. Below the book, the Latin motto 'SOLUS SEQUITUR' is visible. The outer ring of the seal contains the text 'UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE' and the year '1743'.

CAS Senate Meeting

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Update – Faculty & Alumni Awards

- CAS Faculty Awards – Due Date 2/15/2022
 - Teaching, Scholarship, Service, Advisement, Faculty Mentoring, Advocacy
- Francis Alison Faculty Award – Nominations due to college by March 1, 2022
- CAS Alumni Awards – Nominations due to college in late January (date TBD)

Update – Undergraduate Recruiting

- CAS Applications, 2020 – 7443, 2021 – 7887, 6% growth
- Significant variation across departments
- Decision Days
 - 2/26, 4/9, 4/23
 - Format soon
- B&G Saturdays Survey

Update – Position Planning

- Guidance from Provost
 - College plans due late January
 - Meetings with each college in February
 - May target for approvals
 - UD aims to maintain faculty size
 - *Having budget space for salary and startup is key factor*
 - Planning for space appropriately is necessary

CAS Extraordinary Efforts



- 15 Afghan women will join us at UD through the CAS's English Language Institute
- A special thanks to Scott Stevens for his extraordinary leadership and efforts