

Liberal Arts Council Minutes

June 5, 2019

Flowers Hall 230, 2:00 p.m.

Presiding: Dean Mary Brennan

Present: Council members: Audwin Anderson, Manda Anderson, Susan Day (recording), Beth Erhart, Ken Grasso, Craig Hanks, Lucy Harney, Paul Hart, Bill Kelemen, Yongmei Lu, John Mckiernan-Gonzalez, Aimee Roundtree, Vicki Smith

Guests: Ron Johnson (for Murphy)

Absent: Angela Murphy, Chad Smith

The minutes from 5.8.19 minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Dr. Grasso and a second by Dr. Lochman.

Dean Brennan noted that she had sent draft copies of workload and summer assignments to chairs from Dr. Thorne. She asked for written comments to be sent to her to be forwarded to Dr. Thorne by June 19. She noted that Provost Bourgeoise work/life situations can be covered by entering a work/life code.

Dates for meetings related to College policies begun on the 4.31.19 retreat were set as follows: Work life and travel (June 19); Summer assignments (July 17); Workload (July 24).

Dean Brennan offered an update from the 6.4.19 CAD meeting:

Dr. Edna Rehbein is retiring and will not be replaced. RRHEC is not a stand-alone campus, or a health science center, but it will continue to be a facility with mission as a center for health professions and to meet the needs of nontraditional and graduate students in the area. Dean Brennan asked chairs what their departments offer at in RRHEC. Dr. Kelemen offers BA/BS in Psychology. Political Science offers the BPA degree and classes for MPA. English and Sociology offer a few classes. Dr. Lisa Lloyd is doing assessment and an inventory of space at the campus.

President's Cabinet is developing new goals in response to Student Government resolutions about inclusion and diversity issues. Students have requested an expansion of multi-cultural competencies and courses. The MC attribute does not always appear in schedule of classes and thus, students do not see the number of multi-cultural courses that are available to them. Core classes have MC designation but do not show up as MC. US 1100 has a diversity component.

It is important that departments have a detailed plan for hiring a diverse faculty. Use of affinity groups during hiring is required.

Our fall 2019 enrollment is currently flat. University enrollment throughout the state is flat.

We are working on our COLA week for the fall for the week of September 23, 2019. We will have a presence on the quad to advertise the College and departments.

Around the table:

Dean Roundtree noted that the College magazine, *Human Inquiry*, is more closely linked to the TXST newsroom. Dean Roundtree will be around to departments to solicit more news stories.

Paul Hart volunteered to assist with COLA Week activities.

Craig Hanks noted that the Dialogue Series has begun for the summer.

The meeting ended at 2:57 p.m.