

Minutes : Liberal Arts Council
December 5, 2018, 2:00 PM—Flowers Hall 230

Presiding: Dean Mary Brennan

Present: Council members: Audwin Anderson, Susan Day (recording), , Ken Grasso, Craig Hanks, Sergio Martinez (for Lucy Harney), Bill Kelemen, Dan Lochman, Yongmei Lu, Angela Murphy, Aimee Roundtree, Chad Smith

Guests: Matthew Juge (COLA ACC representative)

Absent: Manda Anderson, Beth Erhart, Lucy Harney, Paul Hart (unable to attend because of teaching schedule), John Mckiernan-Gonzalez

The minutes of 11.14.18 were unanimously approved after a motion in support by Dr. Grasso and a second by Dr. Lochman.

The Academic Computing Committee proposals for COLA teaching labs were presented by Department representatives Mr. Matt Greengold (English) and Dr. Yongmei Lu (Geography). The Council supported both proposals for computers, which are extensively used by students in majors in and outside the College, unanimously.

Dean Brennan requested nominations for a new QEP representative to replace Dr. Reiko Graham. The QEP Committee meets Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m. twice a month, and Dr. Graham's class schedule conflicts with those times.

Dean Brennan reminded the Council that Strategic Plan Updates are due Friday, December 7, 2018.

Dean Brennan described a brain storming session related to the "Big Ideas" goals. The Division of University Advancement is soliciting big, overarching ideas that will appeal to wealthy donors who want to leave a lasting contribution to Texas State. A Center for Creative Expression was an example of a "brain-stormed" idea that came from Fine Arts; Psychology is considering proposing a Center for Mental Health. Dean Brennan suggested that chairs "brain storm" and "think outside the box" with one another and others outside the College concerning potential proposals that will help our students and faculty. Globalization and internationalization, an Innovation Corridor, along with a Humanities Center, were ideas discussed. Dr. Lochman noted that Professorships are necessary for the Tier One status we seek. Ideas are due in the Spring from individual faculty, departments, or colleges.

Dean Brennan thanked Dr. Roundtree because a report read in CAD from Research and Sponsored Projects noted that COLA proposals increased from 116 to 163, FY2017-2018.

Dr. Roundtree reported that, by 1.18.19, the Faculty Development Advisory Committee wants a complete list of unique faculty mentorship and faculty development opportunities, with numerical

and descriptive outcomes, in departments. Chairs should send their exemplary activities list to Dr. Roundtree by 1.11.19.

By 2.22.19, Dr. Roundtree also requested that Chairs send her a list of routine and on-going faculty mentorship and development activities. These lists will include both commonplace and unique activities within departments.

A discussion of how grants count in Promotion and Tenure ensued. Grants cannot be counted for original publications, although departments can use grant writing to reward faculty with merit or continuation.

The Dean's CAD update included Faculty Fellowships, which she has discussed with the Provost and Associate Provost. She is awaiting a final decision about the policy.

There has been a suggestion for a COLA speaker series to be developed between multiple departments. Dean Brennan will plan and sponsor a series for speakers.

Graduate student positions will be given raises of one percent in the FY 2019-2020 pay plan, beginning September, 2019. No raises for graduate students will be processed this spring.

Around the table:

Dr. Roundtree elaborated on the request for a list of "unique" departmental faculty mentorships or faculty development activities, with numerical and/or descriptive outcomes, to Dr. Roundtree.

Dr. Roundtree asked chairs to ask their on-line faculty to provide feedback regarding the new LMS systems to ITAC.

Dr. Roundtree reminded chairs about the Professional Development seminar, "Best Practices for an Inclusive Search Process" on December 11, 2018. Chairs and directors must call Professional Development to attend.

The meeting ended at 3:27 p.m.