

Minutes—Approved 9-8-21

Liberal Arts Council Meeting

11 August 2021

Flowers 230 2:00 p.m.

Presiding: Dean Mary Brennan

Present: Manda Anderson, Susan Day (recording), Beth Erhart, Ken Grasso, Craig Hanks, Lucy Harney, Paul Hart, Jeff Helgeson, Bill Kelemen, Gloria Martinez, John Mckiernan-Gonzalez, Aimee Roundtree, Chad Smith, Vicki Smith

Guests: Natalie Ceballos, Christi Conlee, Jason Julian, Toni Watt

Absent: Yongmei Lu

The minutes of 7.14.21 were unanimously approved in a motion by Dr. Grasso and a second by Dr. Chad Smith.

New Liberal Arts majors will meet with department chairs and faculty in Philosophy's Dialogue room during Bobcat Preview on 8.19.21 from 10 to 11:30 a.m.

The President's Convocation will be live-streamed. The COLA Convocation will not be live-streamed. Faculty who were new last year, as well those who are new this year, will be introduced by Chairs and Directors. Dean Brennan indicated that her speech will be short. Directors will briefly explain what their areas will be doing this year.

8.18.21 CAD update:

The 10th anniversary of Texas State as an HIS will be celebrated this year.

Cathy Jaffe and Heather Galloway continue to work on the Phi Beta Kappa application. Chairs are asked to ask faculty to cooperate with questionnaires and requests.

Fall enrollment is predicted to be close to last year's enrollment. Chairs are encouraged to open new sections of courses that they are certain will fill.

Bobcat Cares opens August 23 and closes September 9th on the BOSS system to distribute \$40M to students who have been affected by Covid-19.

The Graduate College is still accepting enrollment. Newly accepted MA students have not enrolled at the level expected

The University will be face-to-face and at 100% capacity. Students who live on campus or play sports have to test regularly. Masks are required on busses. Masks and vaccinations can be encouraged, but not required. Faculty will not be required, but may if they want, to zoom classes to ill students, but faculty may not offer "phantom" Zoom classes. Students who are not vaccinated will have to quarantine if in close proximity to someone who tests positive for Covid-19. Faculty cannot formally change the modality of their classes now without an ADA accommodation.

Seating charts are required in order to contact-trace students.

John McKiernan-Gonzalez asked whether we are able to travel abroad for conferences or research or and bring guests in from abroad. Dean Brennan said, as of now, those things are possible. Hints for organizing events are forthcoming. Faculty meetings may, but not must, be delivered in zoom or Teams.

Stella will ask chairs for names of faculty who are on department Personnel Committees in order to prepare for this year's T&P cycle.

The Administration will host a Town Hall next Tuesday at 1:30 p.m.

Around the table:

Dr. Harney requested Study Abroad pamphlets from departments for the Bobcat Preview event.

Manda indicated that new students can complete orientation until 8.25, thereby producing late registration demands.

Dr. Roundtree asked departments whether they could assist Fine Arts in bringing Nikki Giovanni and Dr. Angela Davis to campus.

The formal meeting ended at 2:57 p.m.

The chair tenures of Drs. Erhart, Kelemen, and Smith were celebrated. During the celebrations of Bill, Beth, and Chad, each thanked the members of LAC.