

Liberal Arts Council Meeting

Flowers 230

2:00 p.m. 20 October 2021

Presiding: Dean Mary Brennan

Present: Natalie Ceballos, Christina Conlee, Susan Day (recording), Ken Grasso, Craig Hanks, Lucy Harney, Jeff Helgeson, John Mckiernan-Gonzalez, Gloria Martinez, Aimee Roundtree, Vicki Smith, Toni Watt

Guests: no one

Absent: Manda Anderson, Paul Hart, Yongmei Lu,

The minutes of 9.29.21 were unanimously approved after a motion by Dr. Grasso and a second by Dr. Harney.

Dean Brennan reminded chairs not to move telephones from room to room without requesting and receiving permission and assistance from Telephone Services. Chairs reported that telephones frequently stop working in History (17) and in English (Graduate advisor suite).

Dean Brennan asked chairs to complete a Strategic Plan Progress form that she will send with only their new information. Upon completion, the form should be returned to her by 11.12.21.

Dean Brennan noted that the administration wants college and department policies to be easily accessible. The CoLA Tenure and Promotion policy will be examined by Drs. Lu and Grasso for suggested revision. Susan Day will examine the Annual Evaluation/Merit policy for same. Dean Brennan will return the policies to the Council for consideration.

Dean Brennan announced a “mixer” for faculty who are interested in research on gender, which will be held November 18, 2021, 4-6 in FH 230. Refreshments will be served.

Dr. Helgeson reminded the Council about proposals concerning a new Professor of Teaching rank and a Personnel Committee policy. He asked whether feedback is available and in what form faculty want to provide it. Opposition to a revised Personnel Committee policy, with a Personnel Committee chair separate from the department chair, was voiced. Teaching Faculty, as a promotion-eligible rank, was also discussed. The funding of this approach was cited, as was the paucity of details in the proposal and the weakening of tenure.

Susan Day asked chairs to consider whether there was support for combining Annual Evaluation/Tenure-promotion calendars. She promised to provide written alternatives when they exist.

The Council voted unanimously to forward the Curriculum Committee report to the Dean.

Around the table:

Dr. Roundtree described the [What's NEXT? Charting Your Path](#) program which is designed for faculty at Texas State University who are seeking career development opportunities in leadership, research, or teaching. Ten to fifteen applications will be funded. Chairs were asked to encourage their faculty to apply.

The Salon Series tonight will feature Jennifer DuBois. Chairs were asked to encourage their faculty to attend.

The meeting adjourned at 2:52.