
Not in attendance: Bret Benjamin, Nicholas Creary, Fernando Leiva, Maksim Royzen, Julio Torres, Michael Werner, Liming Zhou

1. Approval of Minutes from 11/20/13 Council Meeting

Minutes from the 11-20-2013 meeting were approved.

2. Chair’s Report

Jim Mower did not have any announcements since the last meeting.

3. Senate Report

Karin Reinhold reported that there has not been a meeting since the last CAS Council meeting, so there is nothing new to report.

4. Dean’s Report

Calendar year 2013 highlights.

1) Academic Year 2013-2014 is the 20th anniversary of the College of Arts and Sciences. The Dean has convened a committee to organize a lecture and reception in the spring to commemorate.

2) A Strategic Planning Process is underway. Proposals from departments have been received and the current task is to review them and identify themes across departments, especially those that align with the university strategic plan. The Dean will put together a committee to review these proposals and advise the Dean in developing a plan for the next three to five years.

3) Hiring. Twenty-five new faculty members joined CAS in the fall of 2013. Of the 25 lines, 4 came through the diversity program, 5 were funded by CAS, and 16 were 20/20 lines. CAS received another 16 lines for the second round of the 20/20 initiatives (searches are currently underway). At this point it is unclear if the 20/20 initiatives will continue in their current form for a third round.

4) Start-Up New York Initiative. The state has offered a 10-year tax incentive for new businesses developed in partnership with the university. The purpose is to foster research and development in concert with the university’s academic mission and to attract new businesses to the state.

5) Online Teaching. There has been much talk about online teaching initiatives with some concerns expressed over academic freedom and property rights over the courses. Conversations over these issues will continue. The Dean reported that many departments already currently teach on-line courses during the winter and summer sessions, and some offer online courses during the semester. In addition,
several schools offer entire graduate degree programs online (e.g., SPH, SOE). SUNY Central is encouraging online teaching because there is student demand for these courses. However, the Dean assured that there is no mandate for online courses for faculty members who do not want to do it.

6) **CAS events**  (A) June 11th was the official launch of the RNA Institute housed in the Life Sciences Building.  (B) December 4, 2013 (today) was the inauguration of the Confucius Institute.

7) The new **E-Tech building**. The architects and a planning group have been working with the science department chairs to develop a plan regarding which departments or programs may move into the new building. At this point, only Tech Transfer, DAES and ASRC will definitely be occupants. Discussions continue and nothing else has yet been finalized.

8) **Faculty Accomplishments** for 2013 (Below are highlights only. Please report to the Dean’s Office faculty accomplishments on a regular basis).

- Professor James Collins, Department of Anthropology, received a Fulbright teaching & research fellowship in Cape Town for his project “*After Apartheid & Jim Crow: A framework for examining language diversity, civil rights and social inequalities in contemporary South Africa and the United States.*”
- **Professor Lydia Davis, Department of English**, won one of the most prestigious awards in all of literature, the Man Booker International Prize for fiction ($93,000).
- **Professor Phyllis Galembo, Department of Art & Art History**: Eight large-scale color prints from her Ghana series were included in the 55th Venice Biennale (Nov. 2013), one of the most significant exhibitions in the contemporary art world (with over 475,000 visitors).
- **Professor Charles Hartman, Department of East Asian Studies**, spent Spring 2013 at Princeton, NJ, at the Institute for Advanced Study, one of the world’s leading centers for theoretical research and intellectual inquiry. He advanced his forthcoming book on the history and historiography of the Chinese Song dynasty (960-1279).
- Professor Daniel Keyser, Department of Atmospheric and Environmental Sciences, received from the American Meteorological Society (AMS) the Edward N. Lorenz Teaching Excellence Award (to be presented at annual meeting in Feb. 2014).
- Professor Jeanette Altarriba, Department of Psychology and Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education, was elected Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science.
- Associate Professor Pinka Chatterji, Department of Economics, and her co-author Sara Markowitz (Emory University) received the Sixth Adam Smith Award in Mental Health Policy and Economics for best paper (Family Leave After Childbirth and the Mental Health of New Mothers).
- Associate Professor Patrick Nold, Department of History, won the Rome Prize from the NEH, one of the most prestigious fellowship awards in the humanities. He is spending one year at the Academy in Rome to advance his research on 14th century intellectual history with a focus on Pope John XXII (1316-1334).

9) **Future Accomplishments for 2014**

- There has been a drop in external funding applications among CAS faculty. The Dean has been working with individual departments and hopes that this trend will be reversed in 2014.
• There will be continued meetings to work on improving student satisfaction as per the survey results last year.

• A Faculty Satisfaction Survey (COACHE) had been administered in 2011. The results had not been released because several peer institution’s data were collected the following year. The results are now available and will be shared via the Provost’s Office during the current academic year.

• Arts & Sciences departments are encouraged to take a more systematic approach to nominating deserving faculty for excellence awards and distinguished professorships.

10. Questions, Comments, Concerns:
A Councilor asked when CAS Council will be asked to help advise on the CAS Strategic Planning. The Dean reported that most likely after the winter break.

5. Committee Reports

Nominating (from Karin Reinhold):
Nothing new to report.

Tenure and Promotion (from Ariel Caticha):
Ariel Caticha reported that the committee has met and voted on five mandatory cases thus far this semester and will complete another two cases later this week. There will be four remaining mandatory cases to review in January and four other cases (1 early case, 2 promotion to full and 1 mandatory spring case) to review during the rest of the spring semester.

Faculty Development (from Liming Zhou):
The Faculty Development Committee has nothing new to report.

Academic Planning (from Nick Creary):
The Academic Planning Committee has received the CAS travel award applications and will meet next week to make decisions. Notifications should be emailed soon.

Academic Programs (from Marlene Belfort):
The Academic Programs Committee has no new business to report.

Academic Support (Fan Pen Chen):
The Academic Support Committee has no new business to report.

6. Old Business
No old business to discuss.

7. New Business

No new business to address.

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joanna Dreby