

# **Fall Faculty Meeting Notes**

## **12/09/2015**

### **3:50 Meeting called to order by Steve Lahey**

Item I. Call for Approval of minutes from the Spring Faculty Meeting on April 22, 2015 by Dean Francisco. It was approved with 1 abstaining.

Item II. Opening Comments by Dean Francisco.

- Call for approval of Parliamentarian – Steve Lahey: Approved (unanimous)
- Call for nominations of a Secretary to serve for 2 years. No nominations were made but Debbie Minter volunteered to start in Spring.
- Call for approval of Debbie Minter as Secretary: Approved (unanimous)

### **Recommendations from the College Curriculum and Advising Committee**

Item III. Changes to the English Major

- Discussion: Dean Francisco asked if all English faculty are on board? Marco Abel indicated yes.
- Call for vote: Approved (unanimous)

Item IV. Changes to the Global Studies Major

- Discussion: None
- Call for vote: Approved (unanimous)

Item V. Changes to Psychology Major

- Discussion: None
- Call for vote: Approved (unanimous)

Item VI. New Course designator CASC and course CASC 200

- Discussion:
  - Steve Lahey asked who will teach the course. Debbie Minter offered that there are several qualified people across the college who are pursuing or have PhD that could teach. Christina Fielder named Celeste Spier specifically as the first teacher of the course.
  - Joy Castro asked what the difference would be in a possible later 300 course. Christina Fielder explained that the emphasis of 200 is on helping students plan to use remaining time at UNL to gain experience. A 300 course would focus on after graduation outcomes and life after UNL planning.
  - Marco Abel asked how a course like this relates to other orientation/career courses in departments. Christina Fielder explained that the course is meant to compliment and build on such courses, citing CHEM 101, PSYC 100.
- Call for vote: Approved (unanimous)

### **Call for other business by Dean Francisco – None offered**

Item VII. Opportunity to ask questions of the Dean

Dean Francisco offered remarks before taking questions.

Challenging year but a good one with 43 new positions in the college which returned it to 2008 numbers.

Announced that Sidnie Crawford agreed today to chair the Humanities Symposium which is supported by Chancellor in a time where there is visible support for science but less investment in Humanities. Acknowledges increasing enrollment demand and the Symposium might be a way that Humanities can get on top of that and control its future.

Dean Francisco referenced that there are many cool things those on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor are working on:

1. Associate Dean Theiss-Morse is working on expectations and advancement for Professors of Practice (POP).
  - A lunch and a formal workshop was held to get input from POP across the college.
  - There is a sense that their experience has been mixed across departments.
  - The University has no set guidelines so the College with its high volume wants to be proactive and possibly set a model for campus.
  - A Mentoring Committee is led by Beth focused on both Professors of Practice and Junior faculty
2. Associate Dean Pilson is conducting APR's in centers which may have not been reviewed for some time if ever. The goal is to help departments and centers plan for growth and assess if the plan is realistic. Joy Castro expressed that the Institute for Ethnic Studies is appreciative of the opportunity to be reviewed.
3. Associate Dean Minter is working on several projects and will be finishing her position in February. Dean Francisco called for a round of applause for her service. Dean Francisco thanked the Advising Center team as well for their work as part of the many moving parts in the college – faculty, administration, students, chairs needed to stay in forward direction.

Dean Francisco shared the work of the Executive Committee has been excellent this year and that they have been discussing the College's identity and how to communicate it to the broad range of audiences. There will likely be a sharing of a final product or plan in January or February from those discussions. The Dean referenced 2 very important things the Executive Committee has worked across the past two years (in addition to communication):

1. The planning and forming of an external advisory committee for the College that draws upon alumni and in particular the rules and goals of that advisory committee. The Dean's 12-city tour has put him in contact with many alumni as he works on fundraising. He has traveled to Washington, Boston, Denver, KC, Chicago, Vegas, Omaha, Lincoln – later will be San Francisco, LA, Minneapolis. Alumni often share what they found most valuable about their experience in Arts & Sciences. As we move toward enrollment growth, it is important to preserve that.
2. The formation of the CAS Inclusion Diversity Equity and Access (IDEA) Board which will be chaired by Margaret Jacobs who has asked for a co-chair.

### **Dean Francisco invited questions.**

Joy Castro

1. Asked if the College is tracking how many courses like CASC 200 are being offered. Debbie Minter answered yes.
2. Referenced a diversity report she worked on that was submitted to the Chancellor without any response that she was aware of. A reporter is now seeking public access to

it and she wonders if the report was ever shared with Deans. Dean Francisco answered no. Joy noted that some of the recommendations appear to be happening.

Steve Lahey noted that 3 Humanities chairs were there and that others agreed to meet on some issues including the Humanities Symposium. They are concerned about the structure and form of the symposium. Dean Francisco indicated he did not want the Symposium to be top down but it was important to get support from Chancellor Pearlman and Prem Paul. Expectations have been set by them but they have to be met the way that the Humanities looks at issues. They have tried to put together a framework that will now be turned over to Sidnie Crawford and her faculty committee.

Joy Castro asked the Dean if he could describe the framework? Dean Francisco said he could not but in general is was about the state of the Humanities at public universities specifically, noting that we could learn from others, identify emerging opportunities and look internationally for emerging trends/opportunities. He has been in consultation with leaders at other institutions where there are intersections of Humanities and innovation (ex. Humanities and Film/New Media.) He would like to see both alumni and student voices at the Symposium.

Steve Lahey asked if there will be inclusion of people and organizations across the state? Dean Francisco answered yes, both state and national.

Marco Abel asked when the Symposium would be held. Dean Francisco said the goal was for the committee to begin planning right away so that it could occur in fall, but ultimately the committee would determine the timeline.

Steve Lahey shared that he and other Humanities chairs were planning a meeting with Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Ronnie Green to confront him on the lack of attention to Humanities in contrast to STEM.

Joy Castro said that they would approach that meeting with an assumption of good will by the Chancellor and would hope to offer some preferred language around the Humanities.

Dean Francisco encouraged the group to express appreciation for the support the Chancellor has provided for the Humanities Symposium and indicated SVC Green had not been directly involved to date.

**Meeting adjourned by Dean Francisco at 4:50 p.m.**

**Minutes Respectfully submitted by Christina Fielder**