

Arts and Sciences Chairs' Council Meeting Minutes 8/26/13

DRAFT

Present: Bruce Mattingly, Scott Anderson, Seth Asumah, David Barclay, Kathleen Burke, Peter Ducey, Andrew Fitz-Gibbon, Timothy Gerhard, Herbert Haines, Isa Jubran, Kathryn Kramer, Matthew Lessig, David Neal, Jerome O'Callaghan, Judith Ouellette, Gregory Phelan, Brice Smith, Henry Steck, Randi Storch, Paul van der Veur.

Guest: Alexandru Balas;

Announcements:

- Add/Drop deadline is Friday at 4:00 pm. Chairs and secretaries need to be around on Friday.
- Next Tuesday is a good day to run class rosters.
- Summer 2014 course proposals are due to the Dean on 9/11/13.

Topics Discussed:

- Faculty Senate – there are lots of problems there; making decisions that affect all and a lack of representation.
- Use of mezzanine – do we want it to continue as a classroom, or should it go to special use? Various pros and cons discussed. It has problems as a classroom (sound wise and video use wise) but in times of great need it is useful.
- The Provost approved eight searches in late May. Four in Arts and Sciences. Other searches might be approved later. Incremental decisions. There are nineteen vacant positions in A&S.
- New Curriculog system: soft rollout in fall.
- Personal Actions Calendar: a revised version moves promotion to spring. This change now aligns it with the Continuing Appointment Calendar.
- Another proposed idea is to move a change in all dates to either the first or the fifteenth. There is some concern regarding the starting date of January 15th.

Concerns Raised:

- MyRedDragon is not working today – making a lot of work more difficult.
- The room capacity issue still lurks. Is it possible that some rooms have opened up at critical times?
- More transparency is needed regarding enrollment changes.
- Changing the process of enrollment capacity has an impact on pedagogy; needs more inclusive discussion.
- Communication from the Provost can be sent on to faculty by the Chairs. It would be better if the Provost did that directly.

Dean's Office:

- Bruce: let's get fuller representation at the Faculty Senate.
- We're expecting three non-renewals in Arts and Sciences this year.
- Enrollment increases allowed via the Provost's memo in June. Departments could opt out – those requests were honored. There are some glitches in this. Some courses got more than 10% bump. Old caps are now restored. In this area the Registrar responds to Dean's instructions, he does not act alone.
- Bruce: there are very few low-enrolled classes, now. Thank you!