

College of Arts and Sciences  
Meeting of Faculty Assembly  
SK 102

November 17, 2017

2:00-3:15 PM

**ATTENDANCE:**

ANTHROPOLOGY:	A. Browne Ribeiro, F. Crespo, J. Haws, A. Storey, C. Tillquist, J. Zhao
BIOLOGY:	D. Schultz
CHEMISTRY:	R. Buchanan, D. Franco, C. Grapperhaus, L. Hoyt
CLASSICAL & MODERN LANG.:	L. Baixauli-Olmos, M. Dalle, T. Edison, B. Fonseca-Gruber, J. Gabbard, G. Hutcheson, A. Leidner, M. Makris, A. Mastri, S. Owolabi, W. Pfeffer, R. Roebuck, L. Wagner, L. Zeng
COMMUNICATION:	M. Cunningham, J. Ferré, A. Futrell, G. Leichty
COMPARATIVE HUMANITIES:	P. Beattie, A. Hall, T. Stewart, Jr.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE:	D. Keeling
ENGLISH:	D. Anderson, S. Biberman, K. Chandler, J. Dietrich, K. Kopelson, A. Olinger, C. Petrosino, S. Ryan, M. Sheridan, I. Stansel, A. Willey, B. Williams
FINE ARTS:	Y. Chan, D. Lai, R. Singel
GEOGRAPHY/GEOSCIENCES:	C. Day, A. Gaughan, D. Howarth, F. Stevens
HISTORY:	B. Beattie, B. Bowman, C. Ehrick, T. K'Meyer, J. Westerfeld
MATHEMATICS:	T. Riedel, D. Swanson
PAN-AFRICAN STUDIES:	L. Best, J. Carew, P. McCutcheon, T. Rajack-Talley
PHILOSOPHY:	S. Hanson, A. Kolers, D. Owen
PHYSICS:	B. Freelon, C. Jayanthi, G. Williger
POLITICAL SCIENCE:	D. Buckley, D. Clayton, A. Enders, J. Farrier, L. Moyer, R. Payne, S. Wallace
PSYCHOLOGY:	S. Meeks, B. Stetson
SOCIOLOGY:	K. Christopher, D. Roelfs, R. Schroeder
THEATRE ARTS:	J. Calvano, K. Gawley, J. Segal, B. Kelly
WOMEN'S & GENDER ST:	D. Heinecken, S. Jarosi, D. Pecknold, K. Story, N. Theriot

Dr. Karen Christopher, Chair, called the Faculty Assembly to order at 2:04 PM.

Dr. Christopher reminded the Assembly that its next meeting will be held on December 1, 2017, in SK 102 at the regular meeting time of 2:00-3:15 PM. Proposed items of business for that meeting must be submitted to Dr. Christopher no later than 5 PM on November 27, 2017.

Dr. Christopher reviewed doctoral student and A&S advisor Katie Adamchik's preliminary findings about students who "stop out" at "City University," the subject of her dissertation. "Stopping out" is defined as students who stop attending for at least a semester, but return to and graduate from their institution within six years. Preliminary findings indicate that many of these students reported feeling isolated and as if faculty and advisors were unconcerned about them prior to their separation from City University. Upon returning to City University, these students tended to change majors and, having made this change, were more successful and felt more connected to the institution. Based on these findings, Dr. Christopher encouraged faculty to communicate more with students and to refer students to available campus counseling services when warranted.

Dr. Christopher next recognized Dean Kimberly Kempf-Leonard to discuss the possibility of the Faculty Assembly creating an ad hoc committee to consider implementing "a tenure-stream teaching option for A&S faculty." Dean Leonard revisited themes presented during her State of the College address, noting that A&S will be required to find ways to increase its teaching capacity in the face of fiscal and staffing limitations as the University moves towards an enrollment of 30,000 students and seeks a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. At the time of the University's last application, contingent faculty did 47% of the College's teaching. In 2016-17, that number had reached 64%.<sup>1</sup> In hopes of reversing this trend and to place greater attention on teaching's importance to the College's mission, all without losing sight of the University's Research I status, the dean is "contemplating, not advocating" for system of tenure for term faculty with terminal degrees. Dean Leonard briefly reviewed models from Portland State University, Notre Dame, and Oregon State University, stating that she would post information for the faculty's review after the meeting. She also stated that she would circulate Chemistry's personnel document as one that she believes offers clear policy on recognizing and promoting term faculty. During the ensuing Q&A, Dr. Sherri Wallace asked what the proposed committee's charge would be, how long it would have to work, and when its final report would be due. The dean indicated that she would like to have a recommendation during this academic year, but no firm deadline was indicated. Dr. Tracy K'Meyer asked if there is evidence that central administration will support the additional costs that would be associated with converting existing term lines to tenure-stream lines. Dean Leonard responded that no commitment has been made, but she has been tasked with developing a model to reduce reliance on contingent faculty, which is the work she is attempting to initiate. Additional questions raised during the Q&A included how the College could guarantee salary equity for persons in such lines, what a teaching faculty member's course load would be, and whether this initiative could be used to promote fundraising for endowed chairs in each department.

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<sup>1</sup> Dean Leonard noted that Oregon State is only public state university to receive a Phi Beta Kappa chapter between 2009-2015, highlighting that it has managed to reduce its reliance on contingent faculty to 30%.

Dr. Dawn Heinecken moved that the Faculty Assembly create a volunteer committee that would draft a more concrete motion concerning the creation of the proposed ad hoc committee. This committee is to present its proposal to the Assembly at its December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The Faculty Assembly approved his motion unanimously. Persons interested in volunteering should contact Dr. Karen Christopher.

Dr. Christopher next recognized Dr. Susan Jarosi, who provided an update on behalf of the Presidential Search Faculty Consultation Committee. Dr. Jarosi reported on developments since October 18<sup>th</sup> when the PSFCC presented to the Board of Trustees during its regular meeting. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, the committee attended the BOT's listening tour subcommittee's first meeting.<sup>2</sup> Raw data from the presidential search survey was received on November 13<sup>th</sup> as well, but only preliminary findings have been derived from it. Data from the survey will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, at which time the PSFCC will also present to the board once again. The dates for the listening tour have not be firmly established, though it seems that alumni and the community at large will be heard in December and the faculty, staff, and students will have sessions in January. This is problematic because the initial presidential job ad has a December 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. Dr. Jarosi was guardedly optimistic that members of the Board have taken the outcry from various University constituencies about the search being closed to heart. The PSFCC still has not had a conversation with the BOT about how it views the committee's role in the search process.

Finally, Dr. Christopher recognized Dr. David Owen, who presented updates from the Faculty Senate. Concerning efforts to address the \$48 million deficit, Dr. Owen reported that the University has saved approximately \$4.8 million of a projected \$10 million in spending savings. Procurement cost savings, which were also supposed to be \$10 million, were only \$2.2 million. The University is reporting some positive turnarounds. Comparing this point last year with this point this year, applications are up 61% and donations are up 60%. Dr. Owen also addressed the rumor that endowment fund carryover was being swept up by central administration. This is not the case. Rather, to make sure that endowment funds are not being spent faster or at a higher rate than the spending policy allows, carryover funds are being spent down first. Plans are in the works to create a mechanism by which carryover funds that can be freely spent can be moved into a separate account.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 PM.

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<sup>2</sup> There are currently two subcommittees, the listening tour subcommittee and the subcommittee that has been tasked with using feedback from the listening tour to draft and refine desired candidate criteria.