

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

VOL. 45, NO. 2 OCTOBER 8, 2013

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Graduate Council
Minutes from the April 12, 2013 Meeting**

In attendance: Kathleen Blee, Julia Bursten, Stephen Carr, Emma Freeman, Susan Kalisz, Edouard Machery, Lauren Oldfield, Adam Shear, Nicholas Thorne, Aisha Upton
Not in attendance: Daniel Berkowitz, Lillian Chong, Margaret Judd

1. Review of minutes from March 25, 2013

Minutes approved by the Council as submitted.

2. Schedule TA/TF Reviews for next year

The Graduate Council reviewed the schedule of TA/TF training reviews and selected Political Science and Psychology for review in 2013-2014 in order to have one department from the social sciences and one from the natural sciences. Since Neuroscience has only a few TA/TFs, it will be added as a third review. Margaret Judd has volunteered to do one of the reviews again next year.

3. Report on effects of new TOEFL minimums on applications

Assistant Dean Stephen Carr presented a report on the effect of the new minimum TOEFL scores on international student applications. The report only includes graduate applicants who submitted TOEFL scores, but applicants can also use IELs. The report shows that there continue to be applications from students with TOEFL scores below the minimum and that, as predicted, the number of international applicants went down this year. The Assistant Dean intends to compare applicant numbers with admission numbers when they become available in May.

4. Discussion of suspended admission program draft documents

Associate Dean Blee presented drafts to the Graduate Council on proposed action to be taken on the graduate programs whose admissions were suspended last year. These proposals recommend indefinite suspension of admissions for the graduate programs in Classics, indefinite suspension of admissions for the graduate programs in

German, and termination in effect at the end of AY2022 for the graduate programs in Religious Studies. After an extensive discussion, the Council made several suggestions to clarify the wording in the proposals. With two members abstaining, the Council agreed to send the reports forward to the Dietrich School Council. The Associate Dean will also put the matter on the agenda of the Dietrich School PBC.

**Dietrich School of
Arts and Sciences Council
Minutes from the May 10, 2013 Meeting**

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Kathleen Blee, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Colvard, Professors Carol Colby, Kathleen DeWalt, Brian Hanks, Stephen Manuck, Scott Morgenstern, Mark Possanza, Luca Rigotti, and Deane Root, and Graduate Student Representative Woden Kusner

Not in Attendance: Professors Daniel Balderston, Paul Glabicki, Joseph Grabowski, and Daniel Mossé, and Graduate Student Representative Dave Peterson

1. Minutes of the meeting held on May 2, 2013

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on May 2, 2013. Associate Dean Kathleen Blee noted an error of omission. The minutes were moved, seconded, and approved as amended.

2. Dean's Report (Dean N. John Cooper)

Tabled.

3. Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Associate Dean John Twyning)

Associate Dean John Twyning reported that the Dietrich School Undergraduate Council had not met since the last Dietrich School Council meeting.

4. Report from Dietrich School Graduate Council (Associate Dean Kathleen Blee)

Dean Cooper brought the Dietrich School Graduate Council report that had been tabled on May 2 back to Council. As requested, written responses to proposals for indefinite suspensions from the German and Classics departments had been distributed to Council members for their review prior to the meeting. The Dean clarified, in response to questions, that the purview of the Dietrich School Council is academic oversight, including oversight of Graduate Council. If Council accepts the report from the Dietrich School Graduate Council presented by Associate Dean Blee, the proposals would go forward to the Planning and Budgeting Committee for their review. The proposal to terminate graduate programs in Religious Studies would then go to the Provost, and he would seek her guidance with respect to the proposed indefinite suspensions.

The Dean clarified that the intent of the proposals is to indefinitely suspend admission to graduate programs in Classics and German—not necessarily to cancel graduate courses, as there could be high demand for such courses from interdisciplinary programs. Some expressed concern that the proposal to suspend indefinitely the graduate programs was made because the program may not be priorities identified by the University within its strategic plan for achieving nationally ranked graduate programs, and argued that with higher funding achieving that national ranking could be feasible. Others pointed out that graduate programs had experienced indefinite suspensions before, and those suspensions did not turn into termination. One colleague expressed concern that the proposal was for termination or suspension of about one quarter of the total doctoral programs in the humanities, and the Dean responded that the programs only accounted for 4% of the humanities doctoral graduates.

Concerns were expressed about the timeline for decisions, and the Dean agreed it would have been better if the data on which the decisions were based had been available earlier in the academic year. There was a discussion about

whether the institutional budgetary situation had improved to the point at which these actions were no longer warranted, and the Dean clarified that the fundamentals of the University budget have not changed—the Commonwealth allocation is down many millions, tuition revenue is tightly constrained, and School level budget reductions have not been reversed. There was discussion of the true cost of tuition. After extensive discussion, Professor Kathleen DeWalt moved that the report be accepted; Professor Bryan Hanks seconded. The report was accepted 9:3, with no abstentions.

5. Update on the status of the February 13 petition to amend Dietrich School Bylaws

Dean Cooper reported that the petition of a group of Dietrich School faculty members received by his office on February 13, 2013, had been withdrawn in light of Council's proposed amendments to the Dietrich School Bylaws. The Dean credited the petition with focusing the attention of the Dietrich School Council on amending the Dietrich School Bylaws to align better with the University Bylaws.

6. Revised agenda for the May 21, 2013 Called Faculty Meeting

The Dean presented to Council a revised agenda for the Called Faculty meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 2013, at 11 a.m., as well as a detailed written proposal for amendment of the Dietrich School Bylaws and other governance documents to be published with the meeting announcement in the *Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Gazette*. Council approved.

7. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Planning and Budgeting Committee
Minutes from the May 24, 2013 Meeting**

In Attendance: Dean N. John Cooper (Chair), Senior Associate Dean James Knapp, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Kathleen Blee, Associate Dean of the College of General Studies Cristina Ruggiero, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Professors James Cassing, Nathaniel Rosi, David Waldeck, and Randall Walsh, Staff Representatives Karen Lillis and Georgia Spears, and Student Representatives Julia Bursten and Christopher Myers

Not in Attendance: Associate Dean for Administration and Planning W. Richard Howe, Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Colvard, Assistant Dean for Business and Finance Barbara Vattimo, Senior Director of Undergraduate Studies Judith McConnaha, Professors Daniel Balderston and Andrew Weintraub, and Staff Representative Mary Beth Conroy

1. The Dean reminded everyone that the meetings of the PBC and all information presented in them are confidential, except to the extent published in the minutes. This was accepted by all present.

2. Minutes of the meeting held on March 4, 2013

Dean Cooper presented the minutes of the meeting held on March 4, 2013. Student Representative Christopher Myers moved that the minutes be accepted. Student Representative Julia Bursten seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Dean's Report

Dean Cooper thanked elected faculty representative Professor James Cassing, elected Dietrich School Council representative Professor Randall Walsh, and social sciences division Staff Representative Georgia Spears for their service in the Committee. Professor Luca Rigotti has been elected to serve as the new elected faculty representative in the Committee for a three year term. The election for the new social sciences staff representative is underway, and the Dietrich School Council will elect a representative during their first meeting in the Fall.

The Dean announced that Andrew W. Mellon Professor Thomas Hales had become a Fellow of the American Mathematical Association, and Professor Mathew Rosenblum had become a Guggenheim Fellow.

The Dean announced that limited number of senior searches that the School had been able to afford this year seemed likely to be unusually successful—a signature hire has been made in Chemistry, and negotiations were underway with an outstanding candidate in Political Science. An offer of a position at the rank of full Professor in the Department of English has been accepted by the distinguished poet Terrance Hayes, an MFA alum and winner of the National Book Award.

Revenue from the Dietrich Foundation available this year will be used to create an Endowed Chair in Political Science in honor of Bill Dietrich, a doctoral alum of the Department, and an endowment for graduate student aid.

4. Report on proposed termination of graduate programs in Religious Studies and proposed indefinite suspension of admission to graduate programs in Classics and German (Associate Dean Kathleen Blee)

Dean Cooper presented to the Committee a proposal to terminate graduate programs in Religious Studies, proposals to indefinitely suspend admissions to graduate programs in Classics and German, and responses to the proposals from Classics and German. He explained that the academic content of the proposals had been approved both by the Dietrich School Graduate Council and by the Dietrich School Council, and were now being presented to the Planning and Budget Committee as budgetary matters for their review. Associate Dean Blee clarified that the responses from Classics and German were to earlier versions of the proposals, and that the proposals had since been adjusted to address some of the concerns expressed in the responses. Members of the Committee reviewed the documents, and after extensive discussion, the report was moved, seconded, and approved 12-1 with no abstentions.

5. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences
Tenure Council, Secretary's Report
Submitted by Professor Francesca Savoia
September 11, 2013**

Between September 1, 2012 and August 31, 2013 a total of 31 *ad hoc* Review Committees were convened to advise the Dean of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences on cases for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure, appointment at tenured rank, or promotion to full Professor. The members of these Committees were chosen by the Tenure Council Selection Committee and the Dean of the Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences in accordance with the Dietrich School Bylaws. In the previous 10 years, the number of *ad hoc* Review Committees was as follows:

2003-2004	22
2004-2005	11
2005-2006	44
2006-2007	34
2007-2008	33
2008-2009	40
2009-2010	18
2010-2011	27
2011-2012	32
2012-2013	31

Sixteen committees were convened to advise the Dean on departmental recommendations that Assistant Professors be promoted to the rank of Associate Professor and awarded tenure. Thirteen committees voted unanimously to support the departmental recommendations; one committee was split, one committee voted five in favor and one against, and one committee voted two in favor and four against.

One candidate resigned from the University before the Dean reviewed the case, and the Dean initially declined to support an additional four cases for promotion to the rank of Associate Professor and the award of tenure. The four candidates requested reconsideration of their cases, as did one candidate who had not been recommended for promotion by his department. The Dean reaffirmed his

negative decision in that case and in two of the other four cases. In two cases additional materials brought to the Dean's attention during the reconsideration process led him to reverse his position and send positive recommendations forward to the Provost.

Nine *ad hoc* Review Committees were convened to advise the Dean on departmental recommendations for promotion of tenured Associate Professors to the rank of full Professor.

Seven committees voted unanimously in favor of the departmental recommendations of promotion to full Professor. Two committees voted four in favor and one against. The Dean forwarded eight positive recommendations to the Provost and declined to recommend promotion to one of the candidates whose *ad hoc* decision was four to one. The final case is still under review.

Two appeals panels were convened to consider cases from the previous year's cycle. Some changes were suggested with regard to the timeline for reconsiderations, and those suggestions were adopted by the Dean. The Provost otherwise supported the Dean's decision.

Six Review Committees were convened to advise the Dean on departmental recommendations to offer appointments with tenure to new faculty members at the rank of Associate Professor or full Professor. Four Committees voted unanimously in favor of the departmental recommendations; one committee voted five in favor and one against, and another committee voted four in favor and two against. After review of additional materials presented by departments in cases of split *ad hoc* votes, six candidates were offered appointments. Five candidates accepted and one declined.

The Dietrich School Tenure Council Humanities Standing Committee was convened three times, twice in the case of recruitments at a tenured rank and once in the case for a promotion from Associate Professor with tenure to full Professor proposed by the Department late in the year in a successful retention effort.

The Dietrich School Tenure Council Natural Sciences Standing Committee was convened once for a recruitment at tenured rank, and the Dietrich School Tenure Council Social Sciences Standing Committee was convened once for an appointment at tenured rank.

The Dietrich School Tenure Council for 2012-13 consisted of 43 regular members and 31 alternate members. These individuals were called on for service on *ad hoc* Review Committees as follows: 46 members served on at least one Committee, 17 served on only one Committee, 12 on two, 14 on three, 2 on four, and 1 on five. In addition, 56 other faculty members from the Dietrich School and 5 faculty members from other schools served on *ad hoc* Review Committees during the academic year.