

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

VOL. 51, NO. 5 JANUARY 29, 2020

Dietrich School Council Minutes of the December 2, 2019 Meeting

Council Members present: Dean Kathleen Blee (Chair), Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Kay Brummond (Vice Chair); Elected Members: Carol Colby, Chloe Hogg, Melanie Hughes, Scott Kiesling, Dawn McCormick, Chris Nygren, Valerie Oke; Divisional Chair Representatives: David Huffman, John Lyon, Josef Werne; Graduate Student Representatives: Tiffany Betras, and Louis Wilson

Council Members not present: Elected Members: Lillian Chong, Yolanda Covington-Ward, Andrew Lotz, Robert Ruck, Andrew Zentner; Student Government Board Representatives: Nina Duong and Nurga Ramachandran

Dean's Office Personnel present: Executive Director of Undergraduate Studies Jessica Hatherill, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Holger Hoock, Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Research Development Adam Leibovich, Executive Director for Staff and Senior Assistant Dean Michele Montag, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning and Administrative Coordinator Alyson Sved.

1. Minutes of the Dietrich School Council meeting held on October 1st, 2019.

The minutes of the October 1st, 2019 Dietrich School Council meeting were distributed electronically, moved, seconded, and approved.

2. Dean's Report (Dean Kathleen Blee)

Dean Blee shared the Dietrich School major accomplishments since the previous Council meeting. The highlights are listed below:

- The William S. Dietrich II Institute for Writing Excellence officially opened. This institute is aimed to support faculty with writing and connect other support systems across campus.
- Professor Nicole Mitchell Gantt, William S. Dietrich II Endowed Chair in Jazz Studies, Director of Jazz Studies, and Director of the Creative Arts Ensemble has been named the 2019 Women in the Arts Jazz Visionary Awardee by the Jazz Institute of

Chicago. The award will be presented at the end of October during the Institute's 50th anniversary gala.

- Caroline Runyan, Assistant Professor of Neuroscience, has won NIH Director's Awards for pursuing major opportunities and gaps in biomedical research that require trans-NIH collaboration to succeed.
- Michel Gobat was recognized by the American Historical Association with the Friedrich Katz Prize in Latin American and Caribbean History.
- Evelyn Rawski was recognized by the American Historical Association with the Award for Scholarly Distinction, given to "senior historians for lifetime achievement."

3. Department of Statistics and Data Science name change (Dean Kathleen Blee)

The Council discussed the proposed name change. After a motion to approve that was seconded and approved Council voted to approve the name change.

4. AAU Climate Survey (Dean Kathleen Blee)

Prior to the meeting, the AAU Climate Survey was shared with the committee. Council discussed findings and possible remedies. Dean Blee tasked the Graduate Council and Undergraduate Council with developing proposals to improve the climate for graduate and undergraduate students respectively.

5. Approve spring Full Faculty Meeting date: March 30th, 2020 from 1pm-4pm (Dean Kathleen Blee)

The Council earlier approved the major topic for the spring Full Faculty Meeting as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Dean Blee proposed March 30th, 2020 between 1pm-4pm as the meeting date and time. The committee voted to approve.

6. Report from the Dietrich School Graduate Council (Associate Dean Holger Hoock)

Graduate Council met November 4, 2019. Associate Dean Hoock updated Council on the discussion on holistic admissions and GRE requirements across DSAS graduate programs, noting that the vast majority of programs had eliminated the GRE from

consideration in the admissions process, additional programs will consider the GRE optional in 2019/20, and a small number of programs will require the GRE this year as they continue to evaluate their stance.

Associate Dean Hoock also announced a new \$1.5M grant awarded to the Dietrich School by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to rethink doctoral education in the Humanities. Next, Council composed a subcommittee to review TATF orientation, training, and evaluation practices in the Department of Statistics in spring 2020. Council further reviewed and voted to accept the response from the Department of Chemistry to a TATF review conducted in spring 2019.

Associate Dean Hoock updated the Council on initiatives to further enhance support for graduate student mental wellbeing and health. Informed by emerging national research and task force reports from other leading research universities, the multi-pronged approaches include raising awareness, orienting graduate administrators, DGSes, and graduate faculty to existing resources, working with programs to identify and mitigate undue academic stressors, exploring additional support for graduate student mental wellbeing, further improving cultures of mentoring, and sustaining a climate of integrity and respect.

Council members offered expressions of support, asked clarifying questions, and discussed priorities and the viability of certain approaches. Finally, Associate Dean Hoock previewed Vice Provost Urban's request for each graduate school to develop an assessment plan to evaluate graduate mentoring; Graduate Council will discuss this project at its next meeting.

Council voted to approve the report from Graduate Council.

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

Associate Dean Twyning shared information about the Museum Studies major, Human Biology major, Data Science major, and changes to the Ecology and Evolution major.

Council voted to approve the report from Undergraduate Council.

8. Report on the College of General Studies (Associate Dean John Twyning)

The committee briefly discussed the letter that was sent out by Dean Blee to all CGS alumni.

Council voted to approve the report.

9. Other Business

The meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Actions of Dietrich School Undergraduate Council October 4, 2019

Revision to bylaws to allow virtual attendance of Dietrich School Undergraduate Council meeting

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a revision to its bylaws to allow members to attend a meeting via voice or video conference call. The bylaws shall be revised as follows.

Members of Dietrich School Undergraduate Council may attend a regularly scheduled meeting of said council via voice conference or video conference. Such arrangements should be made no less than 24 hours in advance of the given meeting when possible and reasonable. Attendance in this manner will be equivalent to in person attendance for purposes of determining quorum, voting, and conducting any other business of the council.

Retire German Studies minor

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal from the Department of German to retire the German Studies minor. This proposal must proceed to the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies.

Create new German minor

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal from the Department of German to create a new German minor. This proposal must proceed to the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies.

Existing courses to transition to or to fulfill new General Education Requirements

- CHIN 0005 Chinese for Heritage Speakers
 - Second Language
- FR 0021 French Kiss: Love, Sex, France
 - Literature
- FR 0017 Paris Urbanism Past and Present
 - Geographic Region

- RUSS 0860 Modern Russian Culture
 - Geographic Region
- SPAN 1439 Queer Mexico
 - Diversity
 - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- FR 1023 French Theatre Workshop: Molière's L'Ecole des femmes
 - The Arts
 - Creative Work
- GEOL 1950 Wyoming Field Studies in Ecology
 - Natural Science
- GEOL 1951 Wyoming Field Studies in Geology and Paleontology
 - Natural Science

October 18, 2019

Existing courses to transition to or to fulfill new General Education Requirements

- ENGLIT 1011 Milton to Minecraft: Art, Nature, and Technology
 - Literature
- ENGLIT 1345 Docupoetry
 - Literature
 - Creative Work
- HIST 1082 Women, Gender, and Sports
 - Diversity
 - Historical Analysis
- HIST 1621 History of the South Through the 1800s
 - Diversity
 - Historical Analysis
- RELGST 1418 From Vodou to Santeria: Religions of the West African Diaspora
 - Diversity
- FMST 1196 Digital Media Practice
 - The Arts
 - Creative Work

- FMST 1197 Moving Image Editing
 - Creative Work
- SPAN 1442 Indios Chinos, Inca Witches, African Healers, Jewish Conspirators, and Old Christians
 - Diversity
 - Cross-Cultural Awareness

November 1, 2019

Create a new Data Science major

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal for a new Data Science major. The proposal must proceed to Dietrich School Council and then to PACUP for final approval.

Existing courses to transition to or to fulfill new General Education Requirements

- FR 1065 Gender, Sexuality, French Thought
 - Specific Geographic Region

November 15, 2019

Writing Institute

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council heard a report on the status of the Writing Institute.

Museum Studies new major

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal for a new major in Museum Studies. This proposal must proceed to Dietrich School Council and then to PACUP for final approval.

Human Biology new major

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal for a new major in Human Biology. This proposal must proceed to Dietrich School Council and then to PACUP for final approval.

Ecology and Evolution revised major

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal to revise the major in Ecology and Evolution. The change will go into effect for students who declare in fall 2020.

Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council selected one staff advisor and one faculty advisor to jointly receive the Ampco-Pittsburgh Prize for Excellence in Advising. It selected Barbara (Babs) Mowery in the Dietrich School

Advising Center to receive the staff advisor prize and Frayda Cohen from the Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies Program to receive the faculty advisor prize.

**Dietrich School Planning and Budgeting Committee
Minutes of the December 9, 2019 Meeting**

Committee Members Present: Dean Kathleen Blee (Chair), Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Kay Brummond, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Holger Hoock, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Council Representatives Jeffrey Lawrence and Dawn McCormick, Faculty Representatives Jae Jae Spoon, Suzanna Gribble, Meredith Guthrie, and Leslie Hammond, Staff Representatives Georgia Spears, Evon Nigro, and Kristin Hopkins, Graduate Student Members Maria-del-Carmen Barrios, Deborah Danuser, and Xinyi Wu

Committee Members not present: Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Research Development Adam Leibovich (Vice Chair), Council Representative David Huffman, and Faculty Representatives Giuseppina Mecchia and Lucas Mentch

Dietrich School Resource Personnel Present: Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant to the Dean Michele Montag, Executive Director for Financial and Physical Resources Patrick Cunningham, Assistant Dean for Business and Finance Barbara Vattimo, Executive Director of Undergraduate Studies and CGS Jessica Hatherill, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Senior Director of Development Tom Golightly, and Administrative Coordinator Alyson Sved.

Dean Blee welcomed the committee members and thanked them for attending.

1. Minutes of the Dietrich School PBC meeting held on Monday, November 18th.

The minutes of the PBC meeting held on November 18th, 2019 were distributed electronically, moved, seconded, and approved.

2. Budget Presentation (Dean Kathleen Blee)

Dean Kathleen Blee presented on the Dietrich School budget. She highlighted the reasons behind the budget cut, ways the Dietrich School is trying to cut back, and efforts in place to bring additional revenue into the school.

Dean Blee further discussed the new budget model recently introduced which will now match the Budget Proposal to the Strategic Plan. These documents must reflect the priorities of the school and aim to mirror each other. Dean Blee tasked the committee with reallocating 2% of the budget from low priority areas to high priority areas.

The committee asked that the Climate Survey, faculty retention rates, and demographics on students be shared. Dean Blee replied that the Climate Survey will be shared once it has been made anonymous and that there is no data on faculty retention rates because it was not previously collected. She then shared a graph representing changes in the student body over the past few years.

3. Discussion on "deep dive" topics

Dean Blee opened the floor to suggestions for deep dive topics. Graduate student funding and recruiting was suggested as a topic.

Dean Blee then asked the committee for any questions on the budget presentation. One member asked if in addition to brainstorming deep dive topics, members should also think of ways for the Dietrich School to increase revenue.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

**Dietrich School Planning and Budgeting Committee
Minutes of the January 14, 2020 Meeting**

Committee Members Present: Dean Kathleen Blee (Chair), Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Research Development Adam Leibovich (Vice Chair), Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Kay Brummond, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning, Council Representatives David Huffman, Jeffrey Lawrence and Dawn McCormick, Faculty Representatives Jae Jae Spoon, Lucas Mentch, Suzanna Gribble, and Meredith Guthrie, Staff Representatives Georgia Spears, Evon Nigro, and Kristin Hopkins, Graduate Student Members Maria-del-Carmen Barrios, Deborah Danuser, and Xinyi Wu

Committee Members not present: Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Holger Hoock and Faculty Representatives Giuseppina Mecchia and Leslie Hammond

Dietrich School Resource Personnel Present: Executive Director for Staff Personnel and Senior Assistant to the Dean Michele Montag, Executive Director for Financial and Physical Resources Patrick Cunningham, Assistant

Dean for Business and Finance Barbara Vattimo, Executive Director of Undergraduate Studies and CGS Jessica Hatherill, Director of Communications Carol Mullen, Senior Director of Development Tom Golightly, Executive Administrator Lisa Lang and Administrative Coordinator Alyson Sved.

Guests: Director of Sponsored Projects Administration Jeffrey Petsis, Director of Information Systems and Technology Craig Muscato, Division Administrator for the Social Sciences Linda Howard, Director of Payroll/Personnel Kelly Lloyd, and Manager of Constituent Relations Katy Wallander.

Dean Blee reminded the Council that they will be establishing high-level principles and priorities for the School's direction and budget request for FY2021.

1. Guests for "Deep Dive" into Strategic Goals

Following the Council's request to have intensive examination of critical strategic goals, four Dietrich School staff leaders made presentations about their strategic goals and directions.

Jeff Petsis, the Director of Sponsored Projects Administration, presented information on the shift to IBM Analytics which will provide more useful and efficient information about sponsored projects to PIs, Chairs and Directors, and Administrators.

Director of Payroll/Personnel, Kelly Lloyd, presented information about the implementation of Perceptive Content, our digital system for payroll and personnel records.

Craig Muscato, the Director of Information Systems and Technology, presented on the progress and timeline for DASH, an information system that will provide better and more timely access to data for departments and the School.

Linda Howard, Division Administrator for the Social Sciences, shared information about efficiency measures in the Social Sciences that has reduced duplication and costs through integrated purchasing.

2. Minutes of the Dietrich School PBC meeting held on December 2, 2019.

The minutes of the PBC meeting held on December 2, 2019 were distributed electronically, moved, seconded, and approved.

3. Goal 3 – Strengthen Communities

Dean Blee noted that the University is strengthening alumni relations, including a platform for voluntary connections between students and alumni. Katy Wallander, Manager of Constituent Relations, presented information on Pitt Commons, a website recently launched by the Pitt Alumni Association. It is operational for the Dietrich School and soon to launch for CGS.

Dean Blee presented on the Dietrich School's new 3-year major gift fundraising effort, co-chaired by Chair of the Dietrich School Board of Visitors Keith Schaefer and Board of Visitors member Leo Wegemer, working with Tom Golightly, Director of Development and herself. The focus of this campaign is fundraising for Undergraduate Scholarships, Undergraduate Research Funds, Graduate Fellowships, and Endowed Faculty Chairs.

4. Goal 6 – Build Foundational Strength

Council discussed favorably the goal of the Dietrich School to increase the percentage of courses taught by full-time faculty. Recent data from the CFO shows that over the last three years the number of full-time faculty members increased from 800 to 845 and the number of part time faculty declined from 341 to 281.

Council discussed the goals related to space and facilities. Council discussed the misalignment between current pedagogy and classroom instruction and available classroom space and concluded that increasing the proportion of classrooms aligned to teaching needs should be a high priority.

Council made recommendations to enhance the budget devoted to maintaining, updating, and replacing equipment (and to consider ways to repurpose equipment that is no longer needed), ensure equity in restroom availability, and assess security issues across the school's units.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.