

# The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

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## Dietrich School Council Minutes of the January 16, 2020 Meeting

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

**Council Members not present:** Elected Members: Carol Colby, Andrew Lotz, Robert Ruck; 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 December 2, 2019

The minutes of the December 2, 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's major accomplishments since the previous Council meeting. The highlights are listed below:

- a. Caitlin Bruce, assistant professor in the Department of Communication, is the recipient of the 2019 Jane Jacobs Urban Communication Foundation Award for her book *Painting Publics: Transnational Legal Graffiti Scenes as Spaces for Encounter*.

- b. Samir Lakhani (A&S '15), has been named to the 2020 Forbes 30 under 30 list of top young social entrepreneurs.
- c. A publication by Toi Derricotte, professor emerita in the Department of English, has been named a finalist for the 2019 National Book Award for Poetry.

### 3. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion update (Associate Dean Kay Brummond)

Associate Dean Brummond updated the committee on progress made with the diversity initiatives. Based on the External Review, Diversity Dashboard, and feedback from relevant stakeholders, the Faculty Diversity Committee has launched an 18-month focus on faculty recruiting, graduate student admission and creating a climate that makes recruiting a diverse faculty and graduate student population possible. Tara Myer was recently appointed as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Senior Advisor to the Dean. She will be assisting the departments in creating a DEI implementation plan.

### 4. Discussion on Interdisciplinarity (Associate Dean John Twyning)

Associate Dean Twyning reported on progress made in modernizing the curriculum and discussed new certificates, classes, and programs that will be available to students later this year.

### 5. Instructor Rank Criteria (Associate Dean Adam Leibovich)

The Council discussed the proposed instructor rank criteria. After agreed upon changes, the criteria were motioned to approve, seconded and approved.

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

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Graduate Council met on December 10, 2019 Associate Dean Hoock introduced the report on the AAU Campus Climate Survey on Sexual Assault and Misconduct and highlighted data pertaining to graduate and professional students. He clarified that existing support mechanisms include Title IX staff

participation in over one half of Dietrich School departmental orientations as well as mandatory online training for all DSAS incoming graduate students. Associate Dean Hooch, in partnership with SSOE and SCI, had submitted a proposal for a Pitt Seed Special Cycle grant on “Culturally Sensitive Sexual Misconduct Prevention Programming for International Graduate and Professional Students.” [Postmeeting note: the proposal has received full funding]. In response to the 2019 survey, Council discussed education and prevention efforts including improving discoverability of existing resources, reframing Title IX communications and materials in more accessible language that all constituencies but especially victims will perceive as supportive, implementing research-based approaches on bystander intervention, and fostering conversations across units with a view to changing behavior and culture.

Council also discussed using third-party resources to provide education about the Title IX reporting process and conducting focus groups, to include former complainants and respondents, to solicit ideas. Associate Dean Hooch undertook to report back to Council once school-level data becomes available in the spring. Associate Dean Hooch next reintroduced Vice Provost Urban’s request that each school develop a plan to assess graduate mentoring and asked the Council for recommendations on how to best involve graduate students and faculty in the process.

Council discussed hosting student focus groups, consulting DGSes, studying existing surveys such as in Psychology, incorporating graduate mentoring in program assessment matrices, conducting annual student surveys at the program and/or individual mentor level, and consulting UCTL, Center for Mentoring, and nationally leading graduate schools.

By unanimous vote, the Council next accepted the review committee’s report on TATF Training and Practices in the Department of English. Finally, Associate Dean Hooch announced that Dean Meyer is leaving her position as Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies in the Dietrich School to fill the new role of Senior Advisor to the Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The Council joined Associate Dean Hooch in thanking Dean Meyer for her

outstanding contributions to graduate education and her service to graduate students.

Council voted to approve the report from Graduate Council.

#### **Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Associate Dean John Twyning)**

Associate Dean Twyning shared information on the new Public Communication of Science and Technology certificate and revisions to the online course policy and submitted a list of actions of the Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (below).

Council voted to approve the report from Undergraduate Council.

#### **Report on the College of General Studies (Associate Dean John Twyning)**

Associate Dean Twyning shared the progress made in realigning the College of General Studies with serving nontraditional students.

Dean Blee added that Jim McCarl and she will be cohosting a reception for CGS alumni later this spring. The goal is to update the alumni on the changes in CGS and share future plans.

Council voted to approve the report on the College of General Studies.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40pm.

#### **Actions of the Dietrich School Undergraduate Council**

##### **New Public Communication of Science and Technology Certificate**

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal from the Composition program in the Department of English for a new Public Communication of Science and Technology Certificate. This proposal must proceed to Dietrich School Council and then to the Provost’s Advisory Committee for Undergraduate Programs for final approval.

##### **Revision to the online course policy**

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a revision to the online course policy. The revised policy reads:

Students may count a maximum of 24 credits of online coursework completed at Pitt toward their degree. First-year students may not take online courses in their first term. For students who begin in the summer or fall, they may not take online courses until the spring. For students who begin in the spring, they may not take online courses until the summer.

### **Individual courses to fulfill General Education Requirements**

- HAA 0125 Museums: Society and Inclusion?
  - Diversity
  - Historical Analysis
- SPAN 1453 Avant Garde Movements in Latin America
  - Literature
  - The Arts
  - Geographic Region
- ANTH 1548 Amazonian Arts: Making and Meaning
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ANTH 1711 Amazonian Religion and Nature
  - Social Science
  - Geographic Region
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ANTH 1713 Health Population and Nutrition of the Indigenous People of the Upper Napo
  - Social Science
  - Geographic Region
  - Global Issues
- ANTH 1737 Comparative Healthcare Systems
  - Global Issues
  - Geographic Region
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ANTH 1797 Mountain and Medicine - Health and Environment in the Himalayas
  - Geographic Region
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- COMMRC 1067 Global and US Women's Rhetoric
  - Diversity
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
  - Global Issues
- CLASS 1640 Think Like a Roman
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
- RELGST 0405 / HIST 0675 Witches to Walden Pond Religion in Early America
  - Historical Analysis
- RELGST 1143 Death in the Name of God Martyrs and Martyrdom

- Historical Analysis
- RELGST 1151 / CLASS 1090 / HIST 1714 Death in the Mediterranean World
  - Historical Analysis
- RELGST 1370 / HIST 1732 Global Christianity
  - Global Issues
- RELGST 1372 / HIST 1051 Catholicism in the New World
  - Historical Analysis
- RELGST 1428 Religion and Sports
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- RELGST 1452 / MUSIC 1366 Hymns and HipHop Sounds of Islam
  - The Arts
- RELGST 1722 Healing, Shamanism, and Spiritual Possession
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- SLAV 1850 Understanding the Balkans: Introduction to Balkan Culture and Literature
  - Diversity
  - Geographic Region
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ANTH 1709 Activist Anthropology
  - Diversity
  - Social Science
- ANTH 1744 Anthropology of the Olympics
  - Diversity
  - Social Science
  - Global Issues
- ANTH 1746 The Olympics and Identity: Race, Gender, Ethnicity, and the Nation State
  - Diversity
  - Social Science
- ANTH 1747 Writing Culture
  - Social Science
- HPS 1640 Science, Philosophy, and the Senses
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
- KOREAN 1080 Contemporary Korean Culture
  - Diversity
  - Geographic Region
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ECON 1630 Economic Development of China
  - Geographic Region
- ENGCOMP 0430 Public Communication of Science and Technology
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
- MUSIC 1726 Mary Lou Williams: Pittsburgh Jazz Icon
  - Diversity
  - The Arts

- GER 1530 Weimar Culture
  - Diversity
  - Geographic Region
- SPAN 1439 Queer Mexico
  - The Arts
- FMST 0100 / ENGFLM 0355 Visual Literacy
  - The Arts
  - Creative Work
- FMST 0790 / ENGFLM 0585 Technologies of the Body
  - Diversity
- FR 0090 / ITAL 0090 Euro Chic: The Invention of Fashion
  - The Arts
  - Historical Analysis
  - Geographic Region
- SPAN 1422 Mexican Literature, Arts, and Culture
  - Literature
  - The Arts
  - Geographic Region

**Dietrich School Planning and Budgeting Committee  
Minutes of the February 25, 2020 Meeting**

**Committee Members Present:** Dean Kathleen Blee (Chair); Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Kay Brummond; Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies John Twyning; Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research Holger Hoock; Council Representatives David Huffman, Jeffrey Lawrence and Dawn McCormick; Faculty Representatives Suzanna Gribble, Giuseppina Mecchia, and Jae Jae Spoon; Staff Representative Kristin Hopkins and Georgia Spears; Graduate Student Member Deborah Danuser

**Committee Members not present:** Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Research Development Adam Leibovich (Chair); Faculty Representatives Meredith Guthrie, Leslie Hammond, and Lucas Mentch; Staff Representative Evon Nigro; Graduate Student Members Maria-del-Carmen Barrios and Xinyi Wu

**Dietrich School Resource Personnel Present:** Executive Director for Financial and Physical Resources Patrick Cunningham, Executive Director of Undergraduate Studies and the College of General Studies Jessica Hatherill, Director of Communications and Undergraduate

Recruitment Carol Mullen, Senior Executive Director of Development Tom Golightly, Executive Administrator Lisa Lang and Administrative Coordinator Alyson Sved.

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

**1. Approval of minutes of the Dietrich School PBC meeting held on January 29, 2020.**

The minutes of the PBC meeting held on January 29, 2020 were distributed electronically, moved, seconded, and approved.

**2. Review of Sections 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 (Dean Blee)**

Dean Blee provided an overview of the strategic plan, highlighting changes in sections 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3.

The Dietrich School will create a budget request focusing on the pillars of improving the quality of the school, operational excellence, and alignment with the university. The major goals of the school are to hire more full-time faculty, support large scale research grants, improve space, and strengthen communities to welcome diverse students.

Dean Blee asked the committee to share concerns and suggestions. Committee members noted typographical changes, which were accepted and incorporated.

**3. Final planning document review and next steps (Dean Blee)**

The strategic plan was moved, seconded, and approved without opposition.

Dean Blee briefly reviewed data on undergraduate student applications, admissions, and tuition deposit numbers for each of the Dietrich School departments.

Dean Blee shared her appreciation to PBC members for their service and wished everyone a restful spring break.