

The DIETRICH School of Arts & Sciences Gazette

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Dietrich School Council Minutes of the March 28, 2017 Meeting

In Attendance: N. John Cooper (Chair), Reid Andrews, Kathleen Blee, Sabine von Dirke, Sam Donovan, Brandon Fawcett, Michael Goodhart, Josh Hanley, Jessica Hatherill, Jeffrey Hildebrand, Lina Insana, Adam Leibovich, Charles Lwanga, Jeffery Newman, Michael Rerick, John Twyning, Katherine Wolfe

Not in Attendance: Daniel Berkowitz, Michele Colvard, Renate Blumenfeld-Kosinski, Milica Hayden, Adriana Helbig, Sung Kyu Jung, Jim Knapp, Christel Temple

1. Minutes of the Dietrich School Council meeting held on February 28, 2017

The minutes for the meeting held on February 28, 2017 were reviewed. The minutes were moved, seconded, and approved with no changes required.

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

Dean Cooper highlighted several achievements by Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences faculty. These achievements include:

- Brent Doiron, an Associate Professor in the Department of Mathematics, has been named one of 13 distinguished university faculty scientists and engineers awarded the Vannevar Brush Faculty Fellowship by the Department of Defense (DoD).
- Jeffrey Brodsky, Avinoff Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, was named the Director of the Center for Protein Conformational Diseases. The center, one of two in the country, will bring together faculty members from across several Pitt academic departments and centers, along with researchers from Duquesne University, to hunt for breakthroughs in protein breakdown.

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

Dean Twyning provided the committee with updates from two Dietrich School Undergraduate Council meetings.

March 1, 2017

Dean Twyning invited representatives from the language departments to attend the meeting to discuss options for revising the Second Language requirement.

March 22, 2017

The Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved a proposal from the Film Studies Program to change their name to the Film and Media Studies Program.

Dean Twyning also invited representatives from the Public and Professional Writing Program to discuss their proposal for a new major. The Dietrich School Undergraduate Council approved their proposal.

Several existing General Education courses were approved to transition to new General Education Requirements, beginning in fall 2017. Those courses are:

- HAA 1050 World Art: Contact and Conflict
- HPS 0515/HIST 0089 Magic, Medicine, and Science
- HPS 0430 Galileo and the Creation of Modern Science

Lastly, Dean Twyning shared existing courses that will fulfill General Education Requirements. Those courses are:

- ENGFLM 0590 Production and Criticism
- HAA 1455 Art in the Third Reich and Memorializations of the Holocaust
- HAA 0165 Gods and Kings: Art in Ancient Mesopotamia
- HAA 1641 Contemporary Chinese Art
- SPAN 1404 The Incas: Andean Indigenous Peoples and Spanish Colonial Rule

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

Dean Blee provided the committee with updates from the February 28 Dietrich School Graduate Council meeting.

The Graduate Council discussed and approved a proposal to create a new Ph.D. program in Critical European Cultural Studies. Council then reviewed progress on developing a peer mentoring handbook, including the surveying of existing peer mentoring programs in the Dietrich School. To close their meeting, Council discussed the current policy on remote participation in Ph.D. milestone defenses, and suggested several modifications to increase flexibility for students without compromising the standards of the Dietrich School's graduate programs.

5. Continued Discussion of the Tenure Criteria (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper moved the Council meeting toward topics that had been discussed during previous meetings. The first item revisited was tenure criteria. Discussion focused around the idea of adding a paragraph to the existing criteria, members of the committee felt that the evaluation of the impact of interdisciplinary work should be added to the established tenure criteria.

Dean Cooper will take the feedback from the committee, and draft a new paragraph to be included in the tenure criteria.

6. Restructuring of CGS Council (Dean N. John Cooper)

Dean Cooper followed up on his report to Council at the February 28, 2017 meeting on reorganization of the College of General Studies (CGS). A major goal of the reorganization is to strengthen faculty academic oversight of the programs offered by CGS through recruitment of an Assistant Dean who will chair CGS Council.

The current composition of CGS Council is partially based on a proposal approved by Arts and Sciences Council in 1977, and the Dean presented to Council a new proposal for the composition of the CGS Council that reflects better the current programmatic offerings of CGS and that includes elected and *ex Officio* members supplemented by members appointed by the Deans of other Schools with programmatic interest in CGS.

After discussion of the importance of including representation of the CGS Student Government to ensure that students' perspectives are represented, the following motion was moved, seconded, and approved with minor editing:

This Council shall consist of the CGS Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs (ex officio, who shall preside); four elected faculty with one each from the three divisions of the Dietrich School and one in Film and Media Studies; one member of faculty from the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs appointed by the dean of that school; one member of faculty from the Katz School of Business appointed by the dean of that school; two student members appointed by the College of General Studies Student Government; and ex officio the Director of the McCarl Center and the Dietrich School Senior Administrative Officer for Undergraduate Studies. The Council shall deal with matters of curricular and instructional programs, degree and certificate requirements, assessment and review of academic programs, and other issues related to academic programs. The Assistant Dean will report to the Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies in the Dietrich School. The College of General Studies Council shall report its actions to Dietrich School Council through the Associate Dean, and may refer any academic matter to Dietrich School Council for decision.

It was agreed that future changes in the composition of CGS Council should be subject to approval by the Dietrich School Council.

7. Other Business

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

**Report of the Secretary of the Dietrich School
Tenure Council
September 8, 2017**

Between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, a total of 35 *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:

2007-08	33
2008-09	40
2009-10	18

2010-11	27
2011-12	32
2012-13	31
2013-14	29
2014-15	34
2015-16	35
2016-17	35

Seventeen *ad hoc* Review Committees were convened to advise the Dean on departmental recommendations that Assistant Professors be promoted to the rank of Associate Professor and awarded tenure. Fifteen committees voted unanimously to support the departmental recommendations, two committees voted 5:1 in favor of promotion and the award of tenure. The Dean accepted sixteen of those positive recommendations and sent positive recommendations to the Provost. The Dean denied one of those cases, and the candidate has asked for reconsideration.

Ten *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.

Ten committees voted unanimously in favor of the departmental recommendations of promotion to full Professor. The Dean accepted the ten positive recommendations, and is forwarding positive recommendations to the Provost.

Eight Review Committees were convened to advise the Dean on departmental recommendations to offer appointments with tenure to new faculty members at the rank of full Professors and Associate Professors. All eight of the committees voted unanimously in favor of the departmental recommendations. Eight candidates were offered appointments; one declined and six accepted. One offer is still pending. The *ad hoc* committees for each of the cases were Standing Committees of the Dietrich School Tenure Council—five involved the Humanities Standing Committee, and three involved the Social Science Standing Committee.

The Dietrich School Tenure Council for 2016-17 consisted of 50 regular members and 31 alternate members.