

**Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Council  
Meeting**

**Thursday, October 19, 2023**

**2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**910 CL Conference room**

**Council Members present:** Dean Adam Leibovich (Chair), Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs Todd Reeser; Elected Members: Drew Armstrong, Robin Brooks, Russell Clark, Jon Johnson, Laura Lovett, Kathleen Manukyan, Brian Stewart, Liann Tsoukas, Jennifer Waldron; Divisional Chair Representatives: Cynthia Croot, Steven Meriney; Graduate Student Representatives: Grace Naa Korkoi Amoah, Godspower Ubit; Student Government Board Representatives: Aleksander Bearden, Michelle Jaena Lerma

**Council Members not present:** Elected Members: Tymofiy Mylovanov, Brian Stewart; Divisional Chair Representative: Felix Germain

**Dean's Office Personnel present:** Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Recruitment Hannah Johnson, Associate Dean for Equity, Faculty Development, and Community Engagement Natasha Tokowicz, Executive Director of Administration Jessica Hatherill, Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies and the College of General Studies Derek Fischer, Director of Executive Operations Lisa Lang, Administrative Coordinator Z Taylor

**Dean's Office Personnel not present:** Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies Jonathan Woon, Senior Director for Undergraduate

Studies and the College of General Studies Derek Fischer

**Minutes**

Dean Leibovich welcomed the Council members and thanked them for attending.

**1. Dean's Report (Dean Adam Leibovich)**

Dean Leibovich reviewed the Dean's Report that was distributed in advance of the meeting. He asked for any additional feedback from Council members. Two additional items were requested.

- Alison Langmead, director of the Visual Media Workshop and clinical professor of History of Art and Architecture, received a National Endowment for the Humanities, in the amount of \$66,329, as funding for her project Teaching Art History with AI.
- Drew Armstrong, associate professor of History of Art and Architecture, is co-editor of a book, "Narrating the Globe: The Emergence of World Histories of Architecture," that was published in October by MIT Press.
- Rosemary Capo, Assistant Dean of Graduate Studies and associate professor of Geology and Environmental Science, has joined the second cohort of American Geophysical Union's (AGU) Leadership Academy and Network for Diversity and Inclusion in the Geosciences (LANDInG) Academy. This two-year, cohort based professional development program promotes a deeper understanding of DEI science and builds a network of community support for leadership.

- Melissa Catanese, teaching associate professor of Studio Arts, received a 2023 Investing in Creative Development Awards from the Heinz Endowments. She received a \$20,000 award to fund her project, which centers around building narratives in the form of artists' books and wall installations. Catanese was also featured in the magazine Juxtapose for her photobook, "The Lottery," based on Shirley Jackson's short story by the same title and published this year.
- Omid Shekari, assistant professor of Studio Arts, was awarded a two-month residency at the Sculpture Space in Utica, New York. Sculpture Space invites small cohorts of artists to utilize specialized space that allow the artists to focus on sculpture and to connect with other artists, curators, and professionals in the field.
- Mi Dai, research assistant professor of Physics and Astronomy, and Michael Wood-Vasey, professor of Physics and Astronomy, are part of a multi-institute group lead by NASA researchers to observe and analyze a specific type of supernova.
- Jeffrey Newman, professor of Physics and Astronomy, and Brett Andrews, research associate professor of Physics and Astronomy, are part of a team that was awarded a five-year, \$19.5 million grant from Jet Propulsion Labs (JPL) to develop computational tools to create 3D maps of galaxies and dark matter. Newman and Andrews were each awarded nearly \$300,000 in grants to lead their own projects.
- Ian Flynn, postdoctoral fellow in Geology and Environmental Science, led research to model how lava flows might look on Venus, which work will inform upcoming missions from NASA and the European Space Agency. His team's paper was published in the Journal of Geophysical Research: Planets.
- Kirill Kiselyov, associate professor of Biological Sciences, and Andrew VanDemark, associate professor of Biological Sciences, are part of a research team that received a \$3.3 million grant from the National Institute on Aging to investigate a mitochondrial target and whether it protects cells from neurodegeneration associated with Alzheimer's Disease.
- Cynthia Croot, associate professor and Chair of Theatre Arts, provided direction for the Pittsburgh visit of Little Amal. A 12-foot puppet representing child refugees from Syria, Little Amal's ongoing international tour is designed to raise awareness of the plight of displaced peoples worldwide. Work was conducted in collaboration with Real Time Arts, at the Carrie Blast Furnaces National Historic Landmark.
- Alexander Dieters, professor of Chemistry, is the 2023 recipient of the Pittsburgh Award from the local branch of the American Chemical Society.
- Bridget Keown, teaching assistant professor of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, will present her research on women's expressions of war trauma in the 2023 Dennis Showalter Memorial Lecture, "She Was Sure She Was In Hell," on November 2 in the

Cathedral of Learning.

## 2. Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich presented the report in Associate Dean Helbig's absence. Council voted to accept the report with 13 accepting and 0 opposed.

### September 21, 2023 - Undergraduate Council Meeting Individual courses to fulfill new General Education Requirements

- ANTH 1511 Paleo Kitchen
  - Social Science
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- CLASS 0105 Art and Empire
  - Arts
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness
- ENGFLM 1475/FMST 1364 Guillermo del Toro
  - Arts
- HPS 1671 Philosophical Foundations of Cognitive Science
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
- JS 1171 Health and Illness in Israeli Society
  - Geographic Region

### October 5, 2023 - Undergraduate Council Meeting

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

- ANTH 1670 Asian America Reckoning
  - Diversity
  - Global Issues
- CLASS 1180 Goddesses & Gladiators: The Ancient World on Screen
  - Geographic Region

- Historical Analysis
- LING 1110 Linguistics and Poetics
  - Literature
- PHIL 0280 Introduction to Indian Philosophy
  - Philosophical Thinking or Ethics
  - Cross-Cultural Awareness

## 3. Report from College of General Studies Council (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich presented the report in Associate Dean Helbig's absence. The College of General Studies Council has not met yet this academic year.

## 4. Report from Dietrich School Graduate Council (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich presented the Dietrich School Graduate Council report in Associate Dean Woon's absence. Council voted to accept the report with 13 accepting and 0 opposed.

### October 9, 2023 Meeting

#### Associate Dean's Updates

Associate Dean Woon shared the DSAS leadership priorities and provided updates about recent DGS and GSO meetings, next steps for the PhD Skills Survey, and upcoming events.

#### Assistant Dean's Updates

Assistant Dean Capo gave updates about the GSO's concerns about changes in health insurance, representation on Provost's task force, HMB steering committee, and upcoming discussion of academic integrity and generative AI at the full faculty meeting.

**Department response to Math TA/TF Review**

Council discussed the response submitted by the department.

**ChatGPT in a graduate science writing class**

Council member Kirill Kiselyov (Biological Sciences) gave a presentation about how ChatGPT could be used in a science writing course to help generate novelty and develop ideas for research proposals.

**Discussion of Academic Integrity Code**

Associate Dean Woon asked the Council to consider potential updates to the AIC in light of advances in technology and whether the AIC adequately addresses issues such as self-plagiarism, graduate students' roles as instructors, and academic integrity issues that occur outside of classroom settings (e.g., comprehensive exams, or between advisors and advisees).

**No formal actions were taken by Graduate Council**

**5. Election of the Faculty Grants Committee members (Dean Adam Leibovich)**

Dean Leibovich informed Council members that they would receive ballots to elect Faculty Grants Committee members after the Council meeting.

**6. Department Name Change – Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures to Department of Spanish and Portuguese (Dean Adam Leibovich and Interim Chair Christopher Bonneau)**

Interim Chair Bonneau presented the proposal to change the department's name from

Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures to Department of Spanish and Portuguese. He provided the background, rationale, and history of the requested change and noted that this change follows the name changes of other language departments in the Dietrich School. Council voted to accept the report with 14 accepting and 0 opposed.

**7. Other Business**

Dean Leibovich invited Council members to submit additional business to discuss in the November meeting.

Council members suggested items such as: availability of postage stamps for students to use for personal mail, such as mail-in ballots for voting; graduate student health care plans and cost; updates on the University's new budget model; and availability of resources through the University Counseling Center.

With no other business presented, Dean Leibovich adjourned the meeting.