

Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences Council Meeting

Tuesday, September 22, 2026, 11:00 am-12:00 pm, 910 CL Conference Room

Council Members present: Dean Adam Leibovich (Chair), Associate Dean, Faculty Development and Advancement Hannah Johnson (Vice Chair); Elected Members: Caro Pirri, Satish Iyengar, Delanie Jenkins, Juan Mandfredi, Niklas Frykman, Chiara Montera, Andrew Lotz, Andrea Maxwell, Jennifer Muller; Divisional Chair Representatives: Christian Wildberg, Nathaniel Rosi, Michael Gobat; Dietrich School GSO Representatives: Samuel Ato Bentum, Sydney Davila; Dietrich School SGB Representative: Patrick Ryan

Council Members not present: Elected Members: José Cheibub, Melinda Ciccocioppo, Jennifer Keating

Dean's Office Personnel present: Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Governance Todd Reeser, Associate Dean for Faculty Recruitment and Belonging Natasha Tokowicz, Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig, Executive Director for Administration Jessica Hatherill, Senior Director for Undergraduate Studies and the College of General Studies Derek Fischer, Director of Executive Operations Maryellen Gannon, and Academic Administrative Coordinator Heather Day

Dean's Office Personnel not present: N/A

1. Welcome and Introductions (Dean Adam Leibovich/All)

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

2. Role of Dietrich School Council (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich explained the role, processes, and responsibilities of DS Council.

3. Dean's Report (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich presented the report.

- Molly Warsh– History - Leopold-Hidy Award from the editors of the journal Environmental History, for the journal's best article of the year
- Karen Arndt– Biology - elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- Paula Kupfer and Michelle Granshaw- History of Art and Architecture and Theater Arts- 2026 American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) Fellowship

- Mohammed Bamyeh- Sociology- 2025 Kuwait Prize in Economic and Social Sciences for Sociology
- Jonathan Fuller- History and Philosophy of Science -2029 Greenwall Faculty Scholar
- Bill Price- Linguistics- 2026 Nancy Tannery Grant for Open Education Resources
- Vipin Anantha Krisha- History- 2026 Nancy Tannery Grant for Open Education Resources
- Yiting Cheng and Fan Fan- East Asian Languages and Literatures- 2026 Nancy Tannery Grant for Open Education Resources
- Elsie Campbell Hendricks and Kaliae Ung- French and Italian- 2026 Nancy Tannery Grant for Open Education Resources
- Shannon Garland- Music- Fulbright Scholar
- Jessica Sun- Asian Studies Center- Fulbright Scholar
- Josef Werne- Geology and Environmental Science- Fulbright Scholar
- Gayle Rogers- English- 2026 Tools Competition Prize (with Xiang Lorraine Li and Diane Litman, SCI)
- Lara Putnam- History- Elected vice president of research for the American Historical Association for a three-year term
- Michael Ramsey- Geology and Environmental Science- paper selected to feature on American Geophysical Society Journal Perspectives of Earth and Space Scientists
- Kay Brummond- Chemistry- Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award from the American Chemical Society

4. Election of Council member to serve as Vice Chair (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Council unanimously elected Hannah Johnson to serve as the Vice Chair.

5. Report from Dietrich School Undergraduate Council (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig)

Associate Dean Adriana Helbig presented the report of the September 2, 2026 Undergraduate Council meeting. The report was moved, seconded and approved by Dietrich Council.

Dietrich School Undergraduate Council Report- September 2, 2026 Meeting

1. Program Proposals:

A. Applied Statistics Minor Modification- The Dietrich School Undergraduate Council reviewed a proposal to modify the Applied Statistics Minor by setting the grade minimum as a C across the minor.

i. The proposal was moved, seconded, and approved.

ii. Applied Statistics Minor Modification Approved

B. Africana Studies- English Literature Joint Major Termination- The Dietrich School of Undergraduate Council reviewed a proposal to terminate the Africana Studies- English Literature Joint Major which has not had any students declared for many years.

i. The proposal was moved, seconded, and approved.

ii. Africana Studies- English Literature Joint Major Termination Approved

2. Courses to Meet General Education Requirements:

A. SA 0150 Fiber Studio 1 proposed to meet the Creative Work general education requirement.

i. Motion to approve as Creative Work gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. SA 0150 approved for the Creative Work general education requirement.

B. SA 0171 Computational Art proposed to meet the Creative Work general education requirement.

i. Motion to approve as Creative Work gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. SA 0150 approved for the Creative Work general education requirement.

C. KOREAN 1700 Theory and Practice of Translation proposed to meet the Literature general education requirement.

i. Motion to approve as Literature gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. KOREAN 1700 approved for the Literature general education requirement.

D. LCTL 0359 Voodoo and Haitian Society proposed to meet the Diversity, Cross-Cultural Awareness, and Geographic Region general education requirements.

i. Motion to approve as Diversity gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. Motion to approve as Cross-Cultural Awareness gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

iii. Motion to approve as Geographic Region gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

iv. LCTL 0359 approved for Diversity, Cross-Cultural Awareness and Geographic Region general education requirements.

E. ANTH 1518 Introduction to Water (In)Security to meet the Global Issues general education requirement.

i. Motion to approve as Global Issues gen. ed. was made, seconded, and approved.

ii. **ANTH 1518 approved for Global Issues general education requirement.**

F. ENGCOMP 0568 Public Lab: Writing as Witness proposed to meet the Writing Intensive general education requirement.

i. Course reviewed by Jean Grace prior to Council meeting. Jean Grace approved as Writing Intensive gen. ed.

ii. **ENGCOMP 0568 approved for Writing Intensive general education requirement.**

G. ANTH 1774 Perspectives on Religion requested to remove the Writing Intensive general education requirement.

i. Course reviewed by Jean Grace prior to Council meeting. Jean Grace approved removal of Writing Intensive gen. ed.

ii. **ANTH 1774 approved for removal of Writing Intensive general education requirement.**

H. GER 1615 Outsiders on the Margins: The Aftermath of Socialism on Film is a new course cross-listed with HUN 1625 and will receive the same general education requirement attributes (Diversity, Historical Analysis and Geographic Region).

6. Report from the College of General Studies (Associate Dean for Undergraduate Studies and CGS Adriana Helbig)

There is no report at this time.

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

Adam Leibovich presented the report from the April 13, 2026 Graduate Council Meeting, on behalf of former Associate Dean Jonathan Woon. The report was moved, seconded, and approved by Dietrich Council.

Dietrich School Graduate Council Report- April 1, 2026 Meeting

Associate Dean's Updates

Associate Dean Woon opened the meeting by thanking Council members who are rotating off, with recognition of their service. The Council was also reminded of upcoming academic deadlines and events.

Assistant Deans' Updates

Assistant Dean Capo expressed her appreciation to the Council as she concludes her service. She also shared brief updates on recent and upcoming programming, as well as ongoing initiatives related to graduate student support.

Assistant Dean Coutanche provided an update on matters currently under review by the Graduate Council.

Discussion Communication Revised TATF Report

A subcommittee presented an updated report, including revisions intended to clarify expectations and improve organization. The discussion highlighted the importance of clear communication structures for addressing concerns and noted interest in approaches that support effective mentoring across disciplines. Examples from existing instructional contexts were referenced as potential models for broader consideration.

Council accepted the report and approved sending it to the department.

Discussion Biological Sciences TATF Report

The subcommittee presented a report on Biological Sciences, highlighting several strengths of the program, including faculty engagement and existing training components. The discussion noted opportunities to build on current practices and to further support alignment between training and instructional needs.

Council accepted the report and approved sending it to the department.

Graduate Program Assessment: Updated Process and Expectations

Associate Dean Woon outlined updates to the graduate program assessment process, including a revised review cycle and timeline. The discussion emphasized ongoing efforts to support clear processes and broad engagement in assessment activities. The Council approved the updated approach.

Council approved the updated process.

Graduate Faculty and Mentoring Proposal

Associate Dean Woon presented a framework related to graduate faculty mentoring and engagement. The discussion emphasized strengthening mentoring practices, expanding opportunities for faculty development, and supporting programs in managing faculty participation. The framework establishes a structured approach with an initial transition period and provides pathways for faculty engagement and development. It also outlines a timeline for implementation, with remaining details to be taken up in AY27.

Council approved the framework.

Role of Graduate Council

The Council reviewed a revised Role of Graduate Council document reflecting recent updates. The discussion focused on clarifying expectations and supporting effective Council operations. The revisions are intended to facilitate continuity and maintain the Council's established structure and responsibilities.

8. Fall Full Faculty Meeting (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Possible dates:

- Thursday, October 22, 2026: 11:00 am-12:00 pm
- Monday, October 26, 2026: 2:00-3:00 pm

The Council majority elected to hold the Full Faculty Meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2026: 11:00 am-12:00 pm.

9. Full Faculty Meeting agenda (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Dean Leibovich presented possible topics to cover in the Fall Full Faculty Meeting, including a Dean's Report, moving undergraduate advising to professional staff advisors, gen. ed. reform, update on the budget and items the Dean's office is working on such as the workload policy pilot, faculty evaluation plan and faculty mentoring.

10. Elect DSAS Council members to sit on Planning and Budget Committee – one from each division (Dean Adam Leibovich)

Council unanimously voted to elect Delanie Jenkins, Satish Iyengar, and Andrew Lotz to serve on the Planning and Budget Committee.

11. Other Business

Todd Reeser advertised the upcoming workshops on developing the unit-level faculty mentor role and encouraged Council to ask at least one person from their units to attend a workshop session, which is advertised on the Dietrich events website.