

**MINUTES**  
**College of Humanities and Sciences (CHS) Faculty Council 2015-2016**  
**Monday, October 19, 2015; 2211 Temple Building**

***Attendees***

Rowena Briones, CHSFC President, Robertson School of Media and Culture  
Andrew Bristow, CHSFC Secretary, Mathematics & Applied Mathematics  
Ghidewon Abay-Asmerom, CHS Technology  
Jason Arnold, Political Science  
Christine Cynn, Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies  
Denis Demchenko, Physics  
Michael Fine, Biology  
David Golumbia, English  
Kathryn Murphy-Judy, Liberal Studies for Early and Elementary Education  
Sarah Seashols-Williams, Forensic Science  
Greg Smithers, History  
Joseph Topich, Undergraduate Academic Committee  
Joseph Turner, Past CHSFC President, Chemistry  
Mike Valdman, Philosophy  
Marcia Winter, Psychology

***Absent***

Julio Alvarez, CHSFC Parliamentarian, Chemistry  
Susan Bondar-Deren, Sociology  
Ed Boone, Statistical Science & Operations Research  
Charlene Crawley, Interdisciplinary Science Program  
Hani El-Kaderi, University Council Rep  
Nick Farrell, Promotion and Tenure Committee  
Robert Gains, Military Science and Leadership  
Jesse Goldstein, Sociology  
Mignonne Guy, African American Studies  
Guy Hornsby, Kinesiology & Health Sciences  
Bob Sims, School of World Studies

**1. Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 P.M.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the May meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved by voice vote.

**3. Committee Reports**

**Undergraduate Academic Committee** – UAC has held two meetings so far this academic year. Updates were made to courses in Biology, Kinesiology & Health Sciences, Sociology and Military Sciences. All changes have been approved by University Curriculum Committee.

**Graduate Academic Committee** – No report given.

**Technology Committee** –waiting for state approval for funding for planned expenditures.

**P & T** – No report given.

**University Council** – No report given.

**Faculty Senate** – No report given.

**Library** – No report given. It was mentioned that this committee is no longer in existence at the CHSFC level.

#### 4. **Old Business**

##### **College Faculty Bylaw Revision update:**

Rowena reported that the original goal was to try and push the revisions through this fall but after meeting with Allison Baski and Rob Tombes it was suggested to take more time on revisions and place them on the faculty senate ballot in the spring. It was also suggested that CHSFC create an executive summary clarifying the major points of change. It was also advised to make sure that the bylaws are consistent with what we are practicing in the meeting (i.e., students attending CHSFC meetings). During discussion it was mentioned that student leadership council has shown interest in attending the meeting. It was noted that some CHSFC reps questioned the appropriateness of a student attending council meetings. Motion made to not include an undergraduate student on the council. Vote was motioned to strike the addendum of student from faculty council bylaws. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

##### **Proposed resolution regarding Presidential salary bonuses:**

Resolution was distributed to faculty via blackboard after the April meeting. CHSFC received feedback from 10 departments, 6 in favor of resolution and 4 against. The majority of council members agreed that the tone of the resolution was not the most appropriate way to address the issue. A motion was made to table this resolution until more research was conducted on salary inequity between faculty and administration and inequities in pay across both campuses.

#### 5. **President Report**

Rowena met with QEP officers on 8.28.15 and had conversations regarding the Quality Enhancement Plan for General Education Requirements. She also met with Interim Dean Baski and Interim Executive Associate Dean Tombes on 10.12.15 and the conversation centered around CHS individual unit bylaws. It was noted that one of the duties as council is to examine and approve them. CHS administration is seeking consistency within the college. Creation of an executive type summary regarding the changes made to old bylaws for the department would be helpful. The creation of a subcommittee to examine the updated bylaws was to be explored.

#### 6. **New Business**

##### **Unit Bylaws discussion**

LSEE has made the changes based on the recommendations provided by faculty council from the April CHSFC meeting. Vote on approval of the updated LSEE bylaws was tabled until the November meeting.

##### **QEP and Gen Ed requirements**

Faculty discussed the new general education requirements. Concern was raised that revisions to requirements were conducted without faculty oversight. During discussion it was suggested that the provost provide a clear definition on “digital fluency”. It was suggested that a google document be created where members of faculty could ask questions to get clarification on initiatives originating from the provost’s office.

### **Streamlining communication**

There is a definite need for more communication between faculty senate, university council and CHS faculty council. Rowena would like this to be one of the goals for the 2015-2016 year. There was discussion about being more specific with this by way of advocating for a particular cause.

### **CHSFC cause to advocate for 2015-2016**

The November meeting will include discussion on CHSFC goals for 2015-2016. Previously mentioned possible objectives include VCU provisions for childcare (extended hours for faculty teaching evening classes) and adjunct pay.

## **7. Adjournment and Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 4:22 P.M. The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 16, 2015.