

Arts and Sciences Department Chairs

Meeting of October 24, 2017

1:00 - 2:00 pm, Trustees Room, Low Library

Minutes:

David Madigan, EVP, welcomed everyone to the meeting. The following updates, with discussion, were made:

- Faculty Diversity
 - Although the applicant pool for faculty positions is diverse, those invited to campus are not as representative of that diversity. Starting this year, the divisional deans will be reviewing the list of applicants who are invited to campus.
 - The training for search committees is ongoing.
- Faculty Briefing on Student Resources, Policies, and Title IX
 - It is important for all faculty to complete the briefing which covers requirements and best practices on a variety of topics including academic integrity, student mental health, teaching challenges, discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, reporting obligations and other issues. Please remind and encourage your faculty to do so.
- New CourseWorks/Canvas
 - The university rolled out Canvas, a new version of CourseWorks. A variety of issues and questions have emerged from faculty. We are working closely with CUIT and CTL to address these issues.
- Faculty Distinction Reception
 - We had a wonderful reception celebrating the achievements of our faculty with more than 240 faculty receiving hundreds of awards.
- Free Speech and Speaker Disruptions on Campus
 - The University is committed to defend the right of all the members of our community to exercise their right to invite, listen to, and challenge speakers whose views may be offensive and even hurtful to many of us. It is the duty of every member of the community to help preserve freedom of speech for all, including protesters. (See also the [Rules of Conduct](#) and the [Office of University Life](#) site.)

Maya Tolstoy, PPC chair, provided the following updates:

- Natural Sciences Equity Committee
 - The Natural Sciences Equity Committee is completing its work. As part of that effort Professor Tolstoy will be meeting with each science department chair; this effort will be replicated for the equity committees in the humanities (chaired by Ellie Hisama, Music) and the social sciences (chaired by Pablo Piccato, History).

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- PPC Lecturer Study Committee
 - The PPC Lecturer Study Committee is now established, chaired by Andy Nathan (Political Science) and Nicole Wallack (English and Comparative Literature). The committee membership is being finalized.

Michele Moody-Adams, EPPC chair, provided the following updates:

- Recommendations for a PPC Lecturer Study Committee
 - Following the faculty vote to make lecturers in discipline, past their second year review, members of faculty, the committee's objective was to identify the key questions relevant to the work of lecturers, including career tracks, workload, parity, expectations about research, titles, and faculty governance. The PPC Lecturer Study Committee is now established (see above).
- EPPC Subcommittee on Instructional Staffing and Scheduling
 - The subcommittee made recommendations in five areas: class scheduling, distribution of class offerings by instructor type, adjunct hiring and review, communications with the Office of the Registrar, and unmet course demand. The full report and recommendations can be found [here](#).

David Madigan concluded with a reminder about:

- MAO Passthrough
 - There is the gradual disappearance of the requirement that an MAO program enroll a certain number of FTEs before it begins to derive any profit from its MAO operation, also known as "passthrough targets." This change is now being phased in. The full policy can be found [here](#).

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Razaghian