A. The meeting began with updates from EVP David Madigan:

1. A moment of silence was held in recognition of the three Columbia students who had recently died in tragic circumstances during a field trip in Honduras.

2. The Mellon Global Liberal Arts initiative: after its first iteration, ongoing support for the second phase of the initiative had been secured from the Mellon board, with funding renewed for a two-year period. Professor Patricia Grieve had been fundamental to preparing the materials in application for this renewal.

3. The following had been selected for Lenfest Distinguished Faculty Awards for 2016: Marcel Agueros; Gil Anidjar; Susan Boynton; Terry D’Altroy; Tim Donnelly; Michael Golston; Bärbel Hönisch; and Dana Pe’er.

4. Lenfest Junior Faculty Development Awards: there were eighteen recipients of these awards for 2016.

B. Updates from Professor David Schiminovich, chair of the Policy and Planning Committee.

1. The committee was continuing the work that it had begun in Fall 2015 in the areas of (i) tenure and promotion rules and procedures; (ii) the reallocation of Uris Hall to Arts and Sciences after it is vacated by the Business School (a Uris Space Committee was in the process of being convened by EVP Madigan); and (iii) the deployment and compensation of adjunct instructors.

2. The Stated Rules of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences had last been amended in 2010, when the Policy and Planning Committee structure was set up. Further amendments were now needed so as to standardize the practices of the now-established PPC. Those fresh amendments were presented at the meeting of January 27th 2016, but they were by to be voted on at the next faculty meeting. For approval of the amendments, a vote of at least half of the faculty was required so as to achieve a proper quorum; to ensure that quorum, an online vote would be arranged to take place after the next faculty meeting. The PPC viewed this process
of amendment as a means of achieving consistency in its practices – a process not of radical change, but of clarifying procedures.

C. EVP Madigan’s report on the Arts and Sciences Budget.

1. Two key budget components were first distinguished, viz. (i) those outside the control of A&S, namely common costs; the setting of undergraduate tuition in Columbia College; Columbia College financial aid; and investment returns. Then (ii): components of the budget controlled by A&S, including the timely replacement policy (TRP); incremental hiring; faculty salaries; administrational salaries; retention of faculty; student enrollment; PhD stipends; tuition rates (the College excepted); administrational staffing; MAO pass-through; space costs.

2. Total revenue in FY 15 was $823 million, of which $696 million (85%) fell into the general budget, $127 million (15%) into highly restricted funds. (For comparison, total revenue in FY 14 was $796 million.) Of that $696 million in general funds, direct revenue accounted for $635 million, with $519 million (82%) coming from tuition revenue, $72 million from endowment income.

3. Total expenses in FY 15 amounted to $821 million, of which $699 million covered general expenses and $122 million covered restricted expenses. Of that $699 million in general expenses, direct expenses accounted for $508 million (72%); central charges, $167 million (24%); and other transfers, $25 million (4%).

4. General budget forecast: surpluses in recent years had led to modest budget reserves, from which a deficit of c. $5 million in FY 15 was covered. Surplus growth is currently projected to gain momentum in and after FY 17; key factors in that growth are undergraduate tuition increases projected at some 3.8% on an annual basis, MAO tuition increases projected at some 5% on an annual basis, and significant expansion in the activities of the School for Professional Studies.

D. Provost Coatsworth gave a presentation on the University budget and its impact on A&S.

1. Annual support to A&S amounted to $50 million, $39 million to the general budget, $11 million to the restricted budget. There were three sources of that $50 million: $27 million derived from the University’s central budget; some $8.5
million from the Academic Quality Fund and the Provost’s Investment Fund; and $14 million from gifts and endowment income that was directed to A&S at the discretion of the Provost and the President.

2. The central budget: sources of revenue amounted to $485 million, while uses amounted to $482 million, of which central administrational expenses accounted for $263 million; infrastructure support, $177 million; and academic support, $41 million (42% of which went as general support to A&S).

The meeting was adjourned by EVP Madigan at 1.13 p.m.