



COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Faculty of Arts and Sciences
Policy and Planning Committee of the Arts & Sciences

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 Academic Year from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (A&S) Policy and Planning Committee (PPC). We are your elected representatives in A&S governance. We participate in policy and planning and serve as a sounding board for the administration on all issues that concern A&S faculty. [Learn more about the PPC by clicking here.](#)

We also set the agenda for A&S Faculty Meetings. At the last Faculty Meeting on May 7, led by Jack Snyder, then chair of the PPC, we held an open forum with President Bollinger on the ongoing contradiction between the centrality of A&S to the mission of the University and its inadequate budget. The meeting witnessed a large turn-out, generated vigorous conversations among faculty and administrators, and resulted in a letter signed by all members of the PPC and all the A&S Department Chairs ([click here to link to the letter](#)). The letter garnered considerable attention and was covered by the [Spectator](#) and the [Wall Street Journal](#). In response, President Bollinger indicated his support for a dedicated “off-cycle” A&S endowment campaign. We are encouraged by this commitment towards providing A&S with a more rational financial foundation and putting us on more equal footing with our peers. An endowment campaign, however, takes time and will require considerable input and effort from all of us. Executive Vice President Madigan and the divisional deans for the Humanities, Social Science and Natural Science have begun the strategic and academic planning that will directly inform A&S fund raising.

We have a full agenda this year. Following through on the progress made since May, the PPC is working to ensure that A&S faculty issues are addressed now and not put on hold while fundraising plans for the A&S endowment are developed. This means continuing to tackle key issues such as faculty hiring, housing, space, the impact of Manhattanville on A&S planning, GSAS interventions in PhD and MAO programs, globalization, and the A&S budget. We are also working to ensure that multiple ongoing fundraising initiatives work in synergy with the A&S endowment campaign. Our strength is in our numbers. Help contribute to the PPC agenda:

- Communicate your concerns to your PPC representatives via e-mail or give them a call.
- Send us your issues via SurveyMonkey - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/FYCH2ZL>
- Come to Faculty Meetings and participate in a town-hall like venue to share your views with faculty and invited representatives from university governance or operations.

Save the dates for the upcoming A&S Faculty Meetings: 15 October and 10 November, both from 12:00 to 2:00 P.M. Spring semester dates will be posted shortly.

This year has the potential to be an important year for the Arts and Sciences and we look forward to hearing from you and working with you.

Sincerely,

Faculty members of the PPC

(A list of current PPC members and their contact information can be found on the next page.)

**MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE
(PPC) 2014-2015**

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