

Date December 7, 2021
To CLA Senate
From Bradley Dilger, CLA Senate Secretary
Re CLA Strategic Plan Update

In October, Pat Boling and I met with CLA Chief Operating Officer Lori Sparger to learn more about the implementation of the CLA Strategic Plan. I wrote this summary in consultation with Sparger.

The first strategic plan was delivered and approved by the Senate at the end of spring 2019. Subsequently, several task forces were created to explore implementation of elements of the plan and to move it forward from there. Note that many of the task force members were not part of the committee that developed the strategic plan. A plan summary and lists of task forces are on the CLA website: <https://cla.purdue.edu/about/deansoffice/college-initiatives/stratplan/strategicplan.html>

Work on implementing the plan began in Fall 2019, and task force reports were shared with heads in February 2020. Co-chairs had been invited to present at the March 2020 CLA Faculty Senate meeting, but all was halted because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Activity has just resumed, now that budget normalcy is returning, e.g. with the recent creating of a Steering Committee tasked with envisioning the structure of the Center for the Arts & Humanities and the Research Academy. The College will invest \$300,000 each (\$600,000 total) in those initiatives.

The original plan had six task forces. The Arts & Humanities and Research Academy task forces are working very closely together now, given that the Center and Academy are considering opportunities to share resources as they are being developed.

There was broad consensus that embedding DEI throughout strategic plan work was best, rather than having a separate task force, so that one will be sunsetted. We invited Briggitta August to Senate in November in part to help share how the DEI components of the plan will move forward. Among the charge in her new role is to consider how to advance elements of the task force report.

Lori Sparger will continue to coordinate efforts to connect task forces with CLA faculty and staff who can contribute to specific initiatives, e.g. internships with Engagement; mentoring with Dean Hong in her faculty affairs role.

The CLA Senate agenda committee has planned to invite representatives of strategic plan task forces to future meetings in Spring 2022. They will be able to update the Senate and take questions.