Minutes: January 11, 2022

College of Liberal Arts Faculty Senate
https://cla.purdue.edu/faculty-staff/fac senate/

Prepared by Bradley Dilger, Secretary <dilger@purdue.edu>.

Approved by Faculty Senate February 8, 2022.

Roll

The meeting was convened using Zoom at 3:33pm by Senate Chair Patricia Boling, who acknowledged the First Peoples.

Guests: Arne Flaten, Elaine Francis, Erika Gotfredson, Wei Hong, Lori Sparger, Jen William, David Williams.


Three professors will be present as alternates for the Spring 2022 term: Professor Emily Allen for Michael Johnston (English); Professor Josh Boyd for Robin Clair (Communication); and Professor Andrew Flachs for Ian Lindsay (Anthropology).

1. Approval of the Minutes

Boling presented the minutes from the meeting of November 9, 2021.

Motion to approve by Senator Davis, seconded by Senator Bulow.

The Senate had no changes or corrections. The minutes were approved as submitted by voice vote.

Boling suggested delaying approval of the minutes from December 7, 2021 until the February 8, 2022 meeting.

2. Chair’s Remarks – Dr. Patricia Boling

Boling’s noted her feelings were mixed: she was glad to be back in after the holidays, but dismayed by the lingering pandemic at Purdue and nationally. She hopes everyone will be able to be resilient, conduct their classes safely, wear masks and keep distance, and get vaccinated and boosted.

Boling thanked everyone for their interest and participation in the Senate.

3. Dean’s Report

Mr. David Williams, CLA Chief Development Officer, presented the annual CLA fundraising report to the Senate.

Williams began with some background. He has been at Purdue since September 2004, and in his current position since August 2016. He noted that the CLA development team has changed
recently, with Andrea Hatch being replaced by Rachel Frigo, Associate Director of Donor Relations, and Kenya Young, Administrative Assistant, replacing Melody Conn. Martha Weise remains Director of Foundation Relations.

Williams shared a spreadsheet that showed recent numbers for fundraising and the amount of fundraising from multiple sources going back to FY17. Unrestricted and restricted gifts were also indicated.

CLA’s typical goal for all 10 schools and departments is $3.5 million. This goal has been in place for several years. As of December 31, 2021, CLA has already raised $3.4 million for FY22. With the fiscal year ending in June 2022, and several gifts in the pipeline, this is excellent news. In FY21, CLA fell $107,000 short of our goal; that amount would have been higher were it not for a last-minute $1.3 million planned gift to English.

Fundraising during the pandemic has been challenging, especially because travel has been limited to a small number of trips to more local destinations such as Indianapolis and Chicago. Williams has mostly been focusing on maintaining existing relationships rather than building new ones. He hopes CLA can resume travel and the latter work this year.

Williams also noted the amounts required for various funding priorities: $1.5 million for a named professor, or $500,000 at the associate or assistant level; $50,000 for a basic scholarship, or $100,000 for a more targeted one; $50,000 for a lecture series, but better to have at least $200,000. Under PRF’s current endowment distribution policy, endowments, once fully funded, distribute 4% annually to the endowment’s support account.

Williams thanked the Senate for their help with fundraising. He noted that faculty can be very effective fundraisers, given their ability to demonstrate funding needs for specific purposes that may be of interest to donors.

The floor was opened for questions.

Dilger asked for clarification about FY22 funding.

Boling asked about the large jump in funding for faculty support from FY21 to FY22. Williams explained that a $1.8 million Templeton Foundation grant for Professor Fenggang Yang accounted for most of the difference. He observed that single gifts or grants can result in large variations from year to year.

Williams’s slide deck is available on the Senate web site.

4. Old Business

Boling reminded the Senate that while today’s agenda was light, the Senate would have a lot of business to attend to at February, March, and April meetings: updates on the CLA Strategic Plan; reports on family leave and diversity, equity, and inclusion; and more on campus response to sexual assault.

5. Committee Reports

No committees presented reports.
6. New Business

No new business was brought to the Senate.

7. Adjourn

Boling suggested adjournment at 3:51pm.

Motion to adjourn by Davis, seconded by Senator Rand.

Adjournment was approved by voice vote.