COE Senate Meeting
Minutes
December 15, 2017
(Approved January 26, 2018)

Present: Donald J Bolger, (HDQM, Chair), Kellie Rolstad (TLPL), Jennifer Rice (Dean), Dan Levin (TLPL, Chair-Elect), Michelle Espino (CHSE), Blesilda Lim (at Large, Admin Prof Rep, exempt), Kelly Lee (CHSE), Robert Lent (CHSE), Charm Kinya Mudd (Admin Prof Rep, non-exempt), Jessica Chew (at Large, Admin Prof Rep, exempt), Peggy Wilson (TLPL), Hong Jiao (HDQM), Margaret Peterson (at Large), James Groff (TLPL, Graduate Rep).

Absent: Olivia Saracho (TLPL); Lawrence Clark (at Large); Elisa Klein (HDQM); Richard Prather (HDQM).

I. Dean’s Update
Lawrence Clark’s new position as 1) half time administrative role as research associate addressing questions around national trends in teacher education, 3 semester position starting in January; and 2) heading up planning group for teacher education. Meets need for more college-level leadership. Teacher Ed occurs in all three departments, most in TLPL, but this a college level responsibility. We may be moving to having an associate dean, but of what exactly? How will we conceptualize it? Lawrence will help us get that clarity.
New research coordinator: Anita Taylor. Tasked with helping faculty with identifying and getting external funding. 2nd floor with conference table, can bring people together, host workshops, sequencing of activities in grant-getting, bring in speakers, etc.

(Dean’s update continues) CHSE chair search underway. Jan 15 is the deadline for best consideration. Strongly encourages everyone to reach out to get a strong pool.
Op Ed project: Carrie Ann’s office for faculty affairs. Work with faculty to translate their research into public arena, especially women and minorities, any diverse perspectives, we need to have greater impact.
Budget: some funds have been sequestered for a potential give back. Departments have been informed on amounts they may need to give back, and the Dean’s office has amount to give back as well.
Faculty productivity. Committees in place Activity Insights. Hoping it will be implemented next fall. Faculty can prep by ensuring cv’s are up to date and in university wide format, and be ready on Google Scholar.
Background checks: rumors about an HR mandate on background checks on new employees are not true. Down the road, there may be some policy on
background checks, especially for employees who work with children. We are already ahead on this.

Breakfasts with Dean have been very well attended, lots of great information and ideas that she will digest over the break. In particular: More engagement – faculty, students and staff are enthusiastic about shared governance.

II. Strategic Planning: Laura Stapleton
Laura has been charged by the dean to chair the steering committee for strategic planning. Four workgroups, based on survey results. Feb 2: College-wide retreat (in place of College Assembly), with consultant Holly Huntley.

Undergraduate Affairs: Janis Cornell Demoss. DJ asks: what is the state of undergrad enrollment? Falling in teacher prep. As chair of undergrad, DJ is creating the first NON teacher prep undergrad major in the College, maybe bringing in 200 students.

James Groff and DJ have talked about fostering a culture of undergrad education; we have had no representation of undergrads, despite having an undergrad association.

Janis: undergrad advisors, centralized advising model, conduit between faculty and students. Dan and Peggy come for recruitment events, teacher ed experience, that’s where faculty begin to interface with students.

Dean asks: recruitment from where? Janis: high school and college, and undecided majors.

Janis says: Dan had asked about student organizations. There is nothing like GSO; there are groups that are diffused. One group about teacher ed; Kappa Delta Pi (ed honor society); College of Ed ambassadors; two other groups that are not active because there is no faculty or staff sponsor: special ed and SEYC. Dormant now. There may be a new group forming in the spring. Dan: we had to get rid of fictional organizations as part of the plan of organization project.

Executive board seems like a good idea. Dan’s question: does it make sense to hold on and let Plan be revised later? In the rewrite we just did, there is no student representation. Janis: but there are no volunteers! James: TLPL GSA we became a club, it gave us funding, it has expired now. But what is Terrapin Teachers? Dan: it’s a Science and math undergrad pipeline into the College. Also, the GSA is only accountable to the department. What we need is a GSO that does more than just hold events. James: executive committee – there are a couple of grad students that just skip ahead. Side note: Dan came in and talked to one of eight sections of a summer bridge program. Later, there were four students interested in education who all came from that one section that Dan had spoken to. Problem is that our program slows them down slightly. Dean: engaging undergrads and recruitment. Met with undergrad student assembly last week. Had been looking for any undergrad rep but was told juniors and seniors are too busy, and freshmen and sophomores don’t get involved in stuff.

Clubs vs shared governance; we need to make them informal ambassadors for
the College. Engagement: building a community, creating and inviting them into research opportunities. Advocates for Children, maybe not a Living and Learning Community. 96% of our students get jobs in their field. You can double major! We need a campaign, to reach out to these undecideds. We don’t have an honors program. Instead of a fall assembly we could have an undergrad assembly, something with breakout sessions. Connections with schools where students can get involved and do service work. We need to institutionalize these so that students know what’s going on. Dean is talking with legislators, others to get the pieces all in place. A committee on this makes sense.

Dan: What goes on already that could be tapped into?
Dean: going to meet a few more times, work on this. Dan: the way it’s written in, student services asks students to serve on committees, but the undergrad assembly doesn’t specify how this happens.
FIRE proposal unfairly treated. Dean will take this on.

Janis: recruitment events at community college transfer days. On campus, we participate in existing events. Fall Visiting MD days, student open houses with students ambassadors; MD Marquee Day for high SAT score students; officially admitted spring students; Family Weekend on a Friday, sparsely attended.
McNair Scholars presentations, trying to funnel students into ED. College Access over the summer for being an educator. College-initiated events: exploration of requirements; four times a semester - info sessions, publicly advertised. Ed open houses at community colleges. Spring: community college transfer coordinator lunch: we update our program info for them, any changes. Where Can STEM Take You event. Twice a year, pitch to Letters and Sciences students who are undecided. Will ask L&S director to send list of undecideds who have mentioned Ed. We could then do an info session or something to tap into this group. College-initiated – Terrapin Teachers. Peggy says: had a student 2 years ago who came in very well prepared from Charles County – high school vocational program through MSDE that targeted them for Towson. Because she came from Southern MD, she came to UMD. Peggy talked with that high school counselor who raved about the program. Dan: we had a similar middle school teacher vocational program. Dan Chazan is working on this too – getting bus drivers into para program. Dean: One thought: get a list of undergrads who are undecided, yes, go after Living Learning like Civitas; Global Communities; Writers house; Design, Cultures and Creativities. Jessica has been visiting Robotics. Dean: a committee can go after this stuff.

Before Dean leaves – DJ has awards info to share, see IV b, below.

III. College Plan of Organization

IV. Establishing Ad hoc committees
   a. Undergraduate Affairs Committee
We don’t have time to go over this, but we can talk about having someone who can chair. Dan offers his help. Reps from committees don’t have to be senators.

b. Awards Committee
DJ: We need to recognize efforts people are making to change things, to innovate. Discussion of why awards categories are divvied up, rather than lumped together, because this may lead to reification of class differences. Any major objections to awards categories? Wording changes can be made for the next week, then it will be brought to the faculty in January.

c. Diversity and Inclusion
Not included in the Dean’s plan, but important issues, like #MeToo movement. DJ wants to ask for stories about experiences of discrimination.
   i. Annual event for faculty (coordinate with GSO), but historically no faculty attend. We should include this in assemblies to reach everyone.
   ii. Areas of focus
      1. Faculty recruitment and retention
      2. Grad student recruitment
      3. Staff
      4. Climate – we have to check in together and be open about improving climate for all. Dan: we need to plan now, establish a committee, nominate a chair. Dan nominates co-chairs Maggie and James, vote carries. DJ nominates Dan, vote carries.

d. Faculty Affairs Committee
Will hold this off to next meeting.
   i. Tenure & Promotion (run events)
   ii. External Funding & Entrepreneurship
   iii. PTK equity

V. Future Issues
   a. Merit Pay for PTK
   b. Spring Assembly now a College Retreat
   c. Need to have final assembly meeting for PoO
      i. Could be with Awards Ceremony as in years past
      ii. Hold one in April like I did last year

VI. Regular Business
   e. Minutes from January 2017 Senate Meeting
   f. Report from Staff CoA
   g. Awards Committee

VII. Other Issues