

CLA Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday, Sept 19th | 2:30-4:00pm | In person: Quinn, 3rd floor, Chancellor's Conference Room

1. Approval of Agenda

- a. approved – no abstentions, no opposed
- b.

2. Approve Minutes

- a. approved – no abstentions, no opposed

3. Dean's report

- a. Reminder of vision: making CLA a shining example of how liberal arts can tackle big problems in the world
- b. 3 planks:
 - i. Student success
 - 1. Retention rate hovering around ~70%
 - a. Addressing advising holds
 - b. Provost is putting together a working group
 - 2. Financial holds
 - a. Dean's retention fund 21K funded 7 students last year
 - 3. Scheduling issues
 - a. There was plan to reduce (literal) seat capacity in Wheatly and McCormick
 - 4. UMB Be Your best mental health initiatives
 - 5. Pathways to UMB (early college)
 - a. 3 high school connections
 - 6. DFWI rates (D or F grade, withdraw, incomplete)
 - 7. Engagement
 - i. Undergraduate research award
 - 8. New Writing Center
 - i. Working out bugs
 - 9. Nantucket program and getting CLA programs up and running
 - 10. New museum partnership with Isabella Stewart Gardener Museum
 - 11. Graduate school pipelines
 - a. Worked with CSM and CFE to review McNair Scholars gran
 - b. 5 CLA students per year will be McNair scholars, need CLA fac mentors
 - c. Increased support for recruitment, application fee waivers, student books
 - ii. Faculty success
 - 1. Enhanced support for Dean's travel award—remind your department it's ROLLING application
 - 2. Collaboration with MGS for research awards and speakers

3. Subvention support increased
4. Finalizing implementation recommendations for dealing with the progress report
- iii. Resource management
 1. CLA spent over 1.9M last academic year
 2. Shortfall this year is about 1.3M
 3. Working with chairs to rightsize instructional budget
 4. Asking chairs to make difficult choices
 - a. How many NTT sections they ask for
 - b. Whether those sections fall into the 4 categories (intro, senior/capstone, 200 and 300 levels) can be punted to next semester or not offered at the moment
 5. Pods funding announcement coming soon (once strategic plan is finalized)
- c. Addressing recent events
 1. Consternation about Africana Studies Dept report
 - a. Report findings
 - i. University has been consistent in funding
 - ii. Dept has experienced challenges including high turnover and tensions
 - iii. New leadership is needed, transition is underway, CLA office is assuming interim responsibility
 2. Budge model from expense based to activities based
 - a. Focus on faculty productivity and student retention
 3. Need more opportunities for CLA faculty to connect
- d. Concluding points:
 - i. We are moving forward
 - ii. We are stronger together
 - iii. There will be turbulence

4. Moderator's report

- a. 1 continuing subcommittee on sabbaticals and CLRs
- b. Jemadari Kamara is new Senator from Africana Studies
- c. Faculty engagement initiatives
 - i. Both CLA and university wide
 - ii. Moving to getting Faculty Dining Room back for regular use

5. Approve of remaining Senate committees: CPC, SEC & Moderator.

- a. All approved – no abstentions, no opposed

6. Proposals from AAC

a. New courses

- i. HIST - 271 – Survey of Afro-American History
 1. Approved – no abstentions, no opposed

- ii. HUMCTR - 372 - Human Services Directed Study for Credit
 - 1. Approved – no abstentions, no opposed
- iii. RELSTY - 218G - Religion and Film
 - 1. Approved – no abstentions, no opposed

7. New Business

- a. What are some topics that senators would like to see discussion of this Semester? Already proposed topics:
 - i. Discussion of CLA faculty attrition.
 - 1. All senators should inquire to department about attrition over past 5 years of faculty that leave the university (both TT faculty and full time NTT)
 - a. Were replacement hires have been approved?
 - b. Include faculty “on leave” but have gone to other institutions
 - c. Note failed searches
 - d. Note retention offers and their success
 - e. Note how much of the teaching labor is redistributed to NTT faculty
 - ii. Faculty issues in relation to CLA Deans discretionary fund for traveling.
 - 1. Issue around NTT eligibility and equity.
 - 2. Issue around out of pocket payment prior to any confirmation of funding.
 - 3. There is much confusion; idea to collate all the various funding streams, eligibility, applications, deadlines
- b. Other new business or announcements?
 - i. Issue around foreign language testing
 - ii. Issues around getting gen ed approvals, suggestion to invite Neal Bruss to senate.

8. Adjourn