

CLA Senate Meeting Minutes: Monday, March 18, 2019

1. Approval of the Agenda

Unanimously approved

2. Approval of Minutes

Unanimously approved

3. Dean's Report

Mission statement: Senate's involvement is helpful. The Dean sees the "master plan" conversation as a chance to break the dam and get revenue-neutral projects moving again. Chancellor and Provost see the master plan as a way to signal to the trustees that UMB has its act together. If we signal this we can get permission to move things through the queue again. We need to show that there is a plan, but how detailed can it realistically be on the timeline we have? We need to show that we use reasonable criteria for determining if a program should go forward. The notes we sent to the Dean after the last Senate meeting have been helpful.

Faculty hires: By April 1, Chancellor wants our rankings for faculty hires and she will respond by June 1. We should not have high expectations, given the limited resource base. For next year, no new positions will be authorized; hires will be limited to positions that have opened up (e.g. through retirement) in the past year. The queue of open positions from 2-3 years ago are on the Dean's and Provost's minds, but not in the budget. Moreover, replacement hires will not necessarily stay within the college/unit from which the person retired, if more urgent need exists elsewhere. The Dean will give his priorities for CLA to the Provost, and she will then rank them in relation to other colleges. Because CLA did relatively well last year, we may be at a disadvantage for next year.

Online education: The Dean is as confused as we are. The details have not been explained to him beyond what was in Meehan's public speech and what we saw in the Chancellor's memo about online courses now belonging to departments. Budgeting details, for example in relation to CAPS courses, are unclear, making it unlikely that the September 1 target date can be met.

Budget: The budget is "in process," and the Dean will present (as requested) a budget with a hypothetical 3% cut applied to staff payroll, the general operating fund and the NTT operating fund (i.e. not TT faculty). However, he was given a payroll goal that he cannot exceed. Because CLA came in under the maximum this year, the Dean is resisting further cuts, but he has been told that he cannot count vacancy savings or line savings (empty lines) because they "belong to the Provost." The bottom line is that there won't likely be significant budget cuts for departments; whatever CLA loses, it will be mainly from the central budget

Moderator asks about our response to Mt. Ida's creation of redundant programs. The Dean says that the Chancellor has approached some other campuses to discuss creating a consortium to offset competition by pooling resources. The Chancellor and the Dean have

confronted Meehan with the ads for UMA's programs that directly compete with UMB's. He didn't deny that there was a problem and said he would respond to our concerns. (No word yet).

Moderator asks whether push for CAPS restructuring is coming from the Chancellor, and whether the goal is to incentivize faculty teaching online. The Dean says that it is coming from the Chancellor and the Provost, with the dual purpose of returning to the earlier situation where departments controlled courses, and raising revenue through expanded online offerings. The Dean is skeptical that the latter will work for CLA.

Q&A

Senator asks what's the relationship between budget and necessary added sections to meet student needs/demand—DT: told to plan for 10-25% increase in student enrollments but w/existing NTT budget! can't do this—"I'm more for opening the door": if we have demand, let's add sections—as they did in English—"Washington monument defense": doesn't have much discretionary \$ to cut, main place is NTT GOF, but they need to increasing sections not cutting them—if we can get Eng set, w/sections approved in budget—Communications next b/c growing so fast—problem is that revenues are dissociated—so, eg, when CSM gets big increases, that affects CLA too

Senator asks about sections being cut just before semester starts, when students need them to graduate but for various reasons do not enroll for them until the semester starts. The Dean is trying to work with the Provost on this, to prevent premature cancellations. All Orientation sessions this year are jammed into June with the hope that all 1st year students will register early. The Provost has been "quick to point out that 8 and 12 are minimums, not desired" targets, and she is still saying that courses with these low numbers should be combined. The Dean is fighting this position, but cannot guarantee it will go away.

Senator asks about the proposed 3% cut to the NTT GOF. Last semester, there were NTTs on the cusp of losing their benefits because of a cancelled class, including classes scheduled at times that weren't likely to fill (e.g. Saturday 8am). Senator expresses concern that the lowest-paid and most vulnerable NTTs are likely to be cut first, and asks whether a committee could be formed with NTT faculty participation to look into this problem. The Dean suspects that there is some posturing around this. If he really did have to cut the NTT budget by 3%, it would amount to about \$300K, meaning that a lot of NTTs would be affected. He doesn't see how the campus could absorb a cut like this, and doubts it will really happen. According to the guidelines in the Chancellor's budget memo, CLA would have to cut about \$400K, but it doesn't necessarily have to come from the NTT GOF; it could come from the the GOF, which would have a big impact on department budgets. He doesn't know why the NTT GOF was in the list for this cut, and thinks they may just want to see what such a cut would mean, and then realize that they can't do this. He assures the Senator not to worry, noting that student pressure is more likely to force adding rather than eliminating NTTs. The administration will have to recognize that with all the enrollment growth and with improved retention, there will be revenue coming in. He's worried about how CLA will support the incoming fall class with existing faculty.

Dean Executive Assistant reports that Curriculog is coming to replace the One Form. At some point soon, chairs and/or faculty will be asked to test it, and the turnaround time will be very short. Three Senators volunteered.

4. Moderator's Report

Moderator gives a heads-up that a Senator is working on a document to create a structure for FSU/Senate collaboration, which we will review next month.

Moderator requests an update from the Senator who is on the Alternate Scheduling Task Force. The current Provost seems more receptive than the previous one to the shift to a MW/TTh schedule. Senator is asked to report back to the Senate about the outcome of the group's first meeting next week. All Senators are asked to gauge department feelings about the proposed schedule change and to send feedback to the Senator.

Another Senator asks about the connection between scheduling and the push to increase online programming, given space restrictions. There is uncertainty about whether all colleges will be required to adopt the same new schedule. CLA faculty may feel more committed to the proposal than other colleges because of the unique demands of our research. The Senator anticipates resistance from other colleges, noting that the proposed new schedule would also help reduce student parking costs.

5. Motions from the Majors, Honors and Special Programs Committee to approve the following CHANGES to courses:

Applied Econ BA/MA: Involves changing the number of undergraduate elective credits that can be replaced by graduate credits for the combined BA/MA degree, enabling completion one semester faster.

Approved unanimously at 3:15 pm.

New English teaching concentration

Approved unanimously at 3:15 pm.

Modern Languages sequencing trees: Senator explains that the changes aim to clarify language course sequencing requirements for students and the Registrar.

Approved unanimously at 3:17 pm.

Applied Linguistics PhD Program: Senator explains that new faculty and more specialized courses required this update, which mostly involves title changes plus the addition of a new colloquium.

Approved unanimously at 3:18 pm.

6. Motions from the Academic Affairs Committee to approve the following NEW courses:

Moderator asks Senator to clarify why RELSTY262G is being proposed as a new Intermediate Seminar when a 200-level course (not an IS) with the same name already exists. Senator explains that the existing course will be deactivated.

Senator points out that the requested pre-requisite added for AMST315L is not checked on the One Form. This will be fixed.

AMST 315L / CINE 315L / ASAMST 315L
CINE 245
CINE 325L / MLLC 325L
ENGL 205
ENGL 349
LABOR 240L / LATAM240L
RELSTY 262G
SOCIOL 102

Motion to approve as a block approved unanimously. Motion to approve changes approved unanimously at 3:22 pm.

7. Motion from the Academic Affairs Committee to approve the following CHANGES to existing courses:

Moderator asks Senator to explain Sociology restructuring and new SOCIOL102 (Sociology in Boston) course. The latter, a new required course for majors, is designed to get students into the community, teach research skills, raise awareness of job prospects, and facilitate professional networking. The other changes are just updates of course descriptions to clean up the program.

SOCIOL 110G	SOCIOL 242
SOCIOL 120G	SOCIOL 300
SOCIOL 160	SOCIOL 305
SOCIOL 200	SOCIOL 316
SOCIOL 201	SOCIOL 333L
SOCIOL 202	SOCIOL 339
SOCIOL 211G	SOCIOL 350
SOCIOL 216	SOCIOL 355L
SOCIOL 232	SOCIOL 368
SOCIOL 238	SOCIOL 372

Motion to approve as a block approved unanimously. Motion to approve changes approved unanimously at 3:24pm.

Executive Assistant to the Dean adds that HIST101 is missing from agenda, but approved by the Executive Committee.

Motion for HIST101 change approved unanimously at 3:25pm

8. New Business

Moderator distributes Senate notes for the Academic Master Plan and reads them aloud, seeking feedback. Senator suggests inserting “academic” before “criteria” in the first bullet point under *Ideas for Evaluation Process and Criteria*, and replacement of “unenrolled” with “underenrolled” in the second bullet point on page 2.

Moderator notes that even though the Dean isn’t big on including the points about parking, we need to keep the pressure on.

Senator corrects “mean” to “meet” in the ninth bullet point under *Aspirational Brainstorming*, and asks whether the cooperative enrollment point is redundant with the point that precedes it. Moderator explains that one offers a specific strategy in support of the other.

9. Meeting adjourned: 3:33pm