COS Faculty Meeting
Minutes
Wednesday October 24, 2018
12:30-2:00pm
EXPL 3301, Fairfax Campus and WebEx simulcast

In attendance: Peggy Agouris, Padhu Seshaiyer, Barney Bishop, Rebecca Jones, Peter Plavchan, Harold Geller, Andreas Zufle, Andrew Crooks, Alexandra Masterson, Hao Jing, Xiaoyan Tan, Matt Holzer, David Luther, Larry Rockwood, Gerald Weatherspoon, Joel Schur, Natalie Burls, Dhafer Marzougui, MIchale Eagle, Ramin Hakami, Paul So, Pashu Seshaiyer, Martha Wescoat-Andes

Remote: Valerie Olmo, Iosif Vaisman, Kylene Kehn-Hall, Dale Porkowski

1. **Call to order** - meeting called to order at 12:45pm

2. **Approval of minutes (Appendix A)**
   2.1. No changes, Approved unanimously at 12:46pm

3. **Annual Report from Dean Agouris**
   3.1. Where are we this year?
      3.1.1. Growth of about 5% this year, significant growth (18%) in first-time freshmen
      3.1.2. Productive year graduate admissions, 5% growth in PhD, 4% in Masters
      3.1.3. Noticeable growth in research funding, still more post-docs and research faculty than any other college
   3.2. Diversity
      3.2.1. Almost 60% female students
      3.2.2. More than 60% female/minorities in our college leadership team
   3.3. Annual meeting with provost was positive
      3.3.1. Figuring out ways to leverage budget model to our advantage
   3.4. Some changes to equipment fund in coming years, ~$1.6 million
      3.4.1. Annual awards, typically $800K/year
      3.4.2. Calls for proposals will go out in early Spring semester, for purchases to be made by end of term
      3.4.3. All will go through the COS Budget and Planning Committee
   3.5. Open Door Sessions (question from Barney Bishop)
      3.5.1. At Fairfax (Exploratory Hall 3200) and SciTech campus (IABR 3006)
      3.5.2. All COS officials also holding hours for faculty walk-in sessions at SciTech
   3.6. Question from Gerald Weatherspoon: Power requirements in older buildings is not adequate for modern research. What can be done?
      3.6.1. COS is absorbing this cost, "we are doing all we can at a cost of several hundreds of thousands of dollars"
      3.6.2. Martha: we are working to get space functional now, also communicating with facilities about larger issues regarding power capacity and infrastructure projects to address these issues.

3.6.2.1. We've added a Facilities section to the budget request forms for new faculty hires to try to "get a jump" on facilities issues in advance of hiring.

3.6.3. We should also be including facilities and personnel costs in all requests.

3.7. Question from Peter (Physics)

3.7.1. Would it appropriate to have an ad-hoc committee about space requirements?

3.7.1.1. There is already a COS Space Committee, but Facilities itself is a real issue, overquotes and delays are common

3.7.1.2. Space itself is also being taken away and isn't clearly allocated. Makes planning long term very difficult. We are working to manage what we can control.

3.7.2. What is going on with hiring this year?

3.7.2.1. Planning is done at the department level. Exception is new research centers or initiatives

3.7.2.2. Last year we hired 15 tenure-track faculty positions, 3 term, and 4 admin

3.7.3. Could have full programs relocated to SciTech campus (at the request of Central Administration)

3.7.4. Look for growth

3.8. What are the top priorities for the college? (Peter)

3.8.1. We want to take care of our people, give them resources they need to be successful, including start-up funds and space

3.8.2. Empowered, appreciated, and engaged faculty and staff

3.8.3. We are focused on education. Our priority is our studnets. The college wants to support faculty so that they can be successful in their jobs.

4. Announcements

4.1. Save the Date

4.1.1. Learning Assistant Applications due November 8. 2018
https://cos.gmu.edu/stem/learning-assistants/apply/

4.1.2. Learning Assistant Project Presentations Tuesday December 11, 2018, 1-3pm

4.1.3. COS Undergraduate Research Colloquium – April 25, 2019
https://cos.gmu.edu/stem/COSURC

5. Election of Chair Pro Tem

5.1. Prior Nomination: Andreas Zufle

5.1.1. No nominations from the floor

5.1.2. Unanimously elected

6. College Committee Reports (Appendix B)

6.1. **Nominations –** Matthew Holzer, chiar

6.1.1. Solicit nominations for the college, usually happens in the spring

6.1.2. Will get biosketches for elected positions, confirm

6.2. **Executive Council -** David Luther, chair

6.2.1. Other duties as assigned

6.2.2. No duties this year

6.3. **Promotion and Tenure** - no one present to report

6.4. **Grievance –** No pending business

6.5. **Curriculum –** Ramin Hakami, chair

    6.5.1. Very active committee, meet monthly

    6.5.2. Evaluate changes to COS curriculum, from simple like name changes to large changes like entirely new programs

    6.5.3. Assure no conflict between departments

    6.5.4. Working on guidelines for departments interested in proposing new programs

    6.5.5. Have reps from grad council (Padhu Seshaiyer) and Undergrad council

    6.5.6. Conflicts with VSE, has impact with COS students.

6.6. **Faculty Senate**

    6.6.1. Summer task force regarding gift agreements… goal to provide more transparency to donations to the foundation. Report now available.

    6.6.2. Issues with drop/withdrawal dates in September, came up at 9/5 senate meeting, ended up with the dates being shifted to better accommodate the students.

        6.6.2.1. Graduation dates changed, question by Valerie Olmo. Will email Rebecca.

    6.6.3. New Ventures task force, Michelle Marks presentation to senate on 10/5, slides available on senate website

7. **Adjournment @ 1:55pm**

8. **New Business** *tabled for next meeting*

    8.1. COS Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award