Northwestern University

Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences
Minutes of the May 16, 2017 faculty meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 PM in Harris Hall by Dean Adrian Randolph

I. The minutes of the Faculty Meeting of February 22, 2017 were approved as submitted.

II. Dean Adrian Randolph read the recommendation to confer degrees to students upon successful completion of their degree requirements during the 2017 academic year. A total of 731 students enrolled in WCAS will be awarded the BA degree in June, along with two Bachelor of Philosophy degrees, and 26 students who were enrolled in the School of Professional Studies, who will be awarded a Weinberg College degree.

The faculty unanimously approved the recommendation for graduation.

III. Associate Dean Ann Bradlow presented an update on the committee on degree requirements. The committee presented the interim report to programs and departments, gathered comments during the winter quarter, submitted via email, through the website, and during meetings. These responses were collated into a document which can be viewed on the website.

Professor Carole LaBonne questioned whether if there would be a requirement in scientific literacy, Dean Bradlow responded that there is a quantitative data requirement, but noted that faculty responses were welcome.

Dean Bradlow noted that the final report of the Weinberg College ad hoc Committee for Degree Requirements would be submitted to Dean Randolph during early fall 2017.

IV. Assistant Dean Laura Panko presented the report of the Curricular Review Committee. Panko remarked that there were 40 new courses approved during the year. The committee approved changes to the requirements for five majors and two minors in Weinberg College and as well as one major in the School of Professional Studies. NICO 101&102 were re-evaluated for Distribution Requirement credit, and course numbering changes for Art Theory and Practice, for Chemistry, and for non-credit study skill workshop courses organized with the Searle Center for Advancing Learning and Teaching were approved.

Assistant Dean Panko presented the preliminary report on the Curricular Policies Committee. Two curricular proposals were considered by the Weinberg College faculty in 2016-17. First, new interdisciplinary majors to be offered by the School of Professional Studies, a major in Humanities and a major in Social Sciences, were approved at a Faculty meeting on November 29, 2016. Second, a new adjunct major in Global Health Studies was approved by the faculty February 22, 2017.

V. Associate Dean Mónica Russel y Rodriguez presented the Preliminary report of the Teaching-Track Promotion Committee, noting that there were 14 cases considered at the department level, with 11 cases moving forward to the College level committee. Promotions to the rank of Assistant Professor of Instruction were Jingjing Ji, Jaime Dominguez and Michael Maltenfort. Promotion to Associate Professor of Instruction were John Bresland, Kathleen Carmichael,
Martina Kerlova, Junko Sato and Glenn Sucich. Finally, promotions to the rank of Professor of Instruction included Heather Colburn, Elisabeth Elliott, and Ingrid Zeller.

VI. Associate Dean Mary Finn presented an update on undergraduate affairs. She noted that there were 998 deposits, with 20% of the deposits being Pell eligible.

Dean Finn made note that the Arch scholars program has expanded into three programs, the BRIDGE program, NU Bioscientist and Bio&ChemEXCEL. Dean Finn then presented two videos on the programs, first from the student perspective, the second from faculty perspective.

Dean Finn noted that Weinberg advising has expanded their cohorts to five advisors, bringing the ratio down to 1:200.

Dean Finn updated faculty on the Northwestern Academic Resource Center, a collaboration between Weinberg, the Searle Center, and the Library, a location where students could seek tutoring, and a variety of programs on time management and study skills, a consolidation of resources from different venues across campus to be administered under one office.

Dean Finn encouraged faculty to follow the College’s recommendation for listing course costs in time for registration.

VII. Dean Randolph thanked retiring faculty, Professor Darlene Clark-Hine, Department of African American Studies, Professor Michael Stein, Department of Mathematics, Professor of Instruction Phyllis Lassner, Writing Program, and Senior Lecturer Richard Lepine Program of African Studies.

The Dean thanked the faculty in attendance, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Essenpreis, Assistant to the Dean.