



## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 29, 2016

### Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:43 a.m. by Governor Dunaskiss in Room FGH in the McGregor Memorial Conference Center. Secretary Miller called the roll. A quorum was present.

**Committee Members Present:** Governors Dunaskiss, Kelly, Massaron, Pollard, and Trent; renée hoogland, Faculty Representative and Jane Fitzgibbon, Faculty Alternate Representative; and Abdul-Rahman Suleiman, Student Alternate Representative

**Also Present:** Governors Nicholson, O'Brien and Thompson, and President Wilson, Provost Winters; Vice Presidents Decatur, Hefner, Johnson, Lanier, Lindsey, Staebler and Wright, and Secretary Miller

**Committee Members Absent:** Arielle Martin, Student Representative

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES, December 4, 2015**

**ACTION:** Upon a motion made by Governor Massaron and supported by Governor Pollard, the December 4, 2015 minutes of the Academic Affairs meeting were approved as submitted. The motion carried.

### **PRESENTATION: COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES**

Provost Winters introduced Dean Wayne Raskind of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences who provided an overview on the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS).

CLAS encompasses 19 departments and 24 program centers and institutes. Approximately 9500 undergraduates and 1300 graduate students were registered as of fall, 2015. CLAS is the core, hub and economic engine of WSU and similar institutions. In the fall of 2015, CLAS taught 47% of all WSU credit hours and 63% of undergraduate credit hours, including most general education courses.

Dean Raskind offered that it is sometimes challenging to determine students who are genuinely in the Liberal Arts programs as many are pre-Social, Work, pre-Nursing, etc., and are slated to attend another school or college within the university.

In reviewing the CLAS budget, Dean Raskind noted that the budget is personnel heavy, as is the case for most colleges. The total budget is about \$51 million with 97% dedicated to personnel costs.

The retention rate, which Dean Raskind agrees needs to be improved upon, has been at 77% over the last few years. The number of degrees awarded has increased over the past three years.

There are 409 full-time faculty as of FY 2016 which includes tenure-track, tenured and also full-time lecturers. CLAS reverted 34 faculty positions in the last 3 years, due to budget cuts. Likewise, there were only 3 tenure-track hires in the 2014-15 year. Two external chairs were hired in Criminal Justice and also Sociology.

The college had an increase in extramural funding of approximately 30%, from FY 2014 to FY 2015. Additionally, CLAS diversified its portfolio and procured more infrastructure grants, namely, an NSF grant, IUSE (Improving Undergraduate Science Education), over \$3 million received in September. The NIH R01 grant, Haidong Gu (Biological Sciences) for \$1.9 million has been renewed. Additionally, CLAS is a major contributor to important grants at WSU such as BEST and BUILD. Other sources of funding include the Department of Health and Human Services Administration of Community Living, Lisa Rapport (Psychology) PI \$582,000, US Department of Energy, Wen Li (Chemistry) PI \$2.25 million, Paul Karchin (Physics and Astronomy) PI, \$1.8 million, Malaysian Palm Oil Board, Pramod Khosla (Nutrition and Food Science) PI \$2.4 million, and many individual investigator grants from the National Science Foundation, National Institutes of Health, Department of Defense and other federal agencies, foundations, and corporations.

In terms of the Pivotal Moments Campaign, Dean Raskind commented that he has attended the majority of the regional alumni engagements. CLAS has raised \$36.5 million, approximately 67% of their campaign goal of \$56 million from January 2009 through today. The Dean feels optimistic that not only can the goal be met, but surpassed. Additionally, a fourth major gifts officer was acquired, resulting in large gifts from A. Paul and Carol Schaap, Chemistry (\$1.885 million); Robert H. Carr, Mathematics (\$1.5 million); William Weihofen, Physics and Astronomy (\$1.2 million); G. Michael Loewe, Economics and History (\$934,000); Betty Neitzel, Psychology (\$700,000), as well as one additional gift over the last couple of weeks. A gift of \$50 million would allow for the college to be named. Dean Raskind said there are donors with that capacity and they are working very hard toward that goal. With over 60,000 alumni, Dean Raskind estimates they have met less than 10,000, and therefore, he feels the capacity to exceed the target campaign goal is virtually limitless.

Dean Raskind reviewed some of the CLAS accomplishments. In 2012, approximately 71% of undergraduate students in CLAS had no declared major. As of fall 2015, about 25% have no declared major and this number is decreasing rapidly. Additionally WSU's 6-year graduation rate for the 2010 cohort of FTIAC's will approach 40% in comparison to 26% for the 2005 cohort.

New collaborative innovative programs include a project with the School of Medicine to establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Health. Courses will be offered in the Winter 2016 semester with a full launch in Fall 2016. Another such collaboration is with the Honors College, School of Medicine and Graduate School to establish and launch the Wayne Med Direct Program, which fully supports socioeconomically disadvantaged students obtain a BA or BS degree in CLAS, and an MD degree in the School of Medicine.

The final collaboration Dean Raskind highlighted is with the Law School to establish the Wayne Law Start program to enable students at WSU to get undergraduate and law degrees in a total of six years.

Some priorities mentioned in terms of serving CLAS students are to teach almost all classes with full-time faculty, improve outcomes and ensure that students have the skills for success, distribute majors better among departments, increase retention from approximately 77% to at least 85% and raise 6-year graduation rate to at least 50% by 2020.

Additional priorities in terms of faculty hiring and research include making the diversity of the faculty better reflect the diversity of students and increase extramural research by hiring new faculty, many jointly and in cluster hires with other schools and colleges such as Medicine and Engineering. Collaborate additionally with other schools and colleges to establish innovative programs and procure training grants from NIH and NSF Department of Defense, Department of Education and foundations; partner with the School of Medicine to build the life sciences, and leverage the new IBio Center to attract great faculty; secure a \$10 million or more gift, and make a solicitation to a donor for a naming gift for CLAS of \$50 million or more.

Governor Thompson inquired about the steps CLAS is taking to insure a diversified faculty is being hired and promoted. Dean Raskind said that traditionally, hires are typically made according to department, field, and sub-field. He feels that this formula is less likely to result in a diverse faculty. However, he added that he has tried to hire in a more thematic way by using a slightly different technique. As for promotions, Dean Raskind commented that in comparison to other institutions, he feels we have done well with promotions of diverse faculty.

In answer to Governor Kelly's question regarding increasing the retention rate to 85% and the six year graduation rate to 50% by the year 2020, Dean Raskind said there are plans to implement a test to assess student progress (Early Academic Assessment) prior to midterms. This tool will aid in identifying those students who are facing academic challenges. In addition to the Early Academic Assessment, it is Dean Raskind's hope that peer mentoring and learning communities will continue to boost student learning and ultimately facilitate in reaching their retention rate goal. In terms of increasing the graduation rate, CLAS is working with its departments to streamline the scheduling matrix process and provide easier access to scheduling for students.

Dean Raskind will provide information regarding class size to Governor Massaron and the board.

Governor Dunaskiss thanked Dean Raskind for recognizing the need to monitor student achievement before midterm and thanked him for his presentation.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF A BACHELOR of LIBERAL ARTS WITH A MAJOR IN GLOBAL STUDIES**

The Global Studies degree was developed in response to the 2013 external review of the International Studies co-major. The new Global Studies curriculum took into account three criticisms of the International Studies co-major: 1) lack of a foreign language requirement beyond the College's three semester requirement; 2) lack of coherence and structure to the degree; and 3) lack of upper-level classes within the core courses. The Global Studies model is a recent and

necessary innovation to International Studies, which is proving dated in its conception of the world today.

Compared to other programs in southeast Michigan, the WSU Global Studies major is particularly innovative, and with its emphasis on "global" more contemporary than the local International Studies programs. Uniquely, this program integrates undergraduate research as a requirement for the major and requires a global experience in the form of study abroad or an internship.

No costs are associated with this program with the possible exception of a teaching reduction and summer stipend to support the director. All other administrative responsibilities (advising, course scheduling, budget and personnel) will be assumed by the current staff in CMLLC.

The proposal was approved by the faculty and Chair of the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; the CLAS Faculty Council; the Office of the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the Office of the Provost.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion made by Governor Massaron and supported by Governor Kelly, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve establishment of a Bachelor of Arts with a major in Global Studies in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (CMLLC), within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), effective Fall 2016. The motion carried.

### **DISCONTINUANCE OF THE MASTER OF ARTS IN DESIGN AND MERCHANDISING**

The Master of Arts with a major in Design and Merchandising (MA-DESM) was transferred to the Department of Art and Art History upon the dissolution of another college in the mid-1980's. The program was cited for low degree productivity in Academic Year 2014-15, and in response, the department and college faculty have recommended program closure. The program is a 33-credit degree that allows students to study fashion design at the graduate level. Students currently enrolled in the program will be given an opportunity to finish. The discontinuance of this degree program has been through the full review process.

**ACTION:** Upon a motion made by Governor Massaron and seconded by Governor Kelly, the Academic Affairs Committee recommended that the Board of Governors approve the discontinuance of the Master of Arts with a major in Design and Merchandising, effective Fall 2016. The motion carried.

### **OVERVIEW OF STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

Robert Kohrman, Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning and Analysis provided an overview of student demographics, as of fall, 2015. The demographic breakdown covered three areas: ethnicity, geographic location and age distribution. Further, the demographic includes breakdowns based upon freshmen, undergraduate, graduate and professional status, as well as an overview of the student body. In the fall of 2015, there were 2,562 FTIAC's compared to 2,195 in 2014. There were no major changes in terms of the percent distribution. However, the overall class did increase. Referring to the table in the slide presentation, Mr. Kohrman pointed



out just two examples by category for FTIAC's. African-Americans had enrollment of 396 in 2014, compared to 457 in 2015. White students (which include Middle Eastern students) went from 1,240 in 2014 to 1,428 in 2015.

In terms of age distribution, the majority of our students are freshmen students between 18 and 19, and that has remained constant over the last several years. The percentage changes in enrollment by origin between fall 2014 and fall 2015 were very nominal. No individual ethnicity changed more than 0.8%, while most changed 0.4% or less.

Wayne County includes Detroit, and about half of the Wayne County enrollment are students that come from the city of Detroit.

As for the undergraduate student body, there was a bit of a drop from 18,347 undergrads in 2014 compared to 17,669 in 2015. The fall of 2015 shows a small increase in the percentage of students with the ethnic background categories of White, Asian, Hispanic, and two or more races. The primary reason for the increase in the white demographic is there were more students from Middle Eastern descent.

Governor Kelly asked what percentage of our white students are Arab-American. Mr. Kohrman advised that Middle Eastern students are declared as white students for federal reporting policies. Our application now asks if students are of white or Middle Eastern descent.

Governor Kelly further inquired if there is a rough idea, to which he responded that the data can be reviewed and compiled from the applications that have been received to date, and that information will be given to the board.

Governor Thompson inquired about the drop in African American students and American Indian students from 2014 and 2015. While Mr. Kohrman did not have a rationale, he did offer that the overall university population has dropped. As a percent of the pie chart, the number of African-Americans did decrease, but not significantly. He furthered offered that there was a decrease in the Detroit population over the last several years which is consistent on the undergraduate side.

Returning to his presentation, Mr. Kohrman said the average age for the undergraduate category for 2015 was 24 which has slowly decreased from 25 since fall 2010 and fall 2011.

The percentage changes in enrollment by origin between fall 2014 and fall 2015 were nominal. However, Mr. Kohrman mentioned there has been a small increase in the number of students outside of Detroit but within Wayne County, as a percent of the overall Wayne County students.

Graduate enrollment by ethnicity for 2015 indicates there's a small increase in the percentage of students with Hispanic and Non-resident Alien or international students, compared to Fall 2014. The graduate enrollment for this Fall 2015 was 7,495 compared to 7,201 in 2014, roughly the numbers translate to approximately 51 percent white and 49 percent minorities. The average age of graduate students is 31, and similar to undergraduates, the age of graduate students has slowly decreased from 33 since the fall of 2010 and the fall of 2011.

Approximately 47 or 48% of graduate students come from the Wayne County area. Mr. Kohrman pointed out that there has been a significant shift, in that there is a larger population of

international students or non-resident students and therefore the percent of students coming from Wayne County drops from just about 27%.

Professional enrollment includes students enrolled in the JD, MD and PharmD programs. Professional enrollment for last year was 2058 compared to 2030 in 2014. There was a small increase in percentage of students with the ethnic background categories of White, Hispanic or Non-Resident Alien, meaning non-international students.

The average age of professional students is approximately 25, which has been relatively consistent over the past 4 or 5 years. Similar to grad school students, approximately one quarter of the students are coming from Wayne County, another quarter are from Oakland county, and a significant number of students are non-resident or non-resident international students.

In terms of the overall student body, enrollment this last fall was 27,222 compared to 27,578 in 2014. There has been a small increase in the number of students from White, Asian and Hispanics or Two or more races, but no significant change between the two years. The overall age of our students is 26, and the age of our student body is dropping. It had been 27 years of age over the last couple of years.

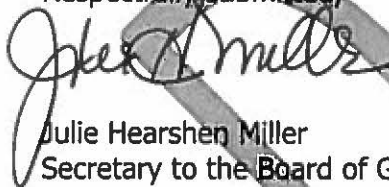
Approximately 30% of students come from Wayne County, 21% are from Oakland County, and 17% come from Macomb County, with the balance coming from other Michigan counties, or students are Non-resident International students.

Mr. Kohrman completed his report, and there were no further questions.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie Hearshen Miller  
Secretary to the Board of Governors