MINUTES OF ARTS & SCIENCE FACULTY COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, August 23, 2017, 3:30 pm–Suite 1600 Student Union

(1) Chairperson Jeff Loeffert called the meeting at 3:31 pm.

(2) Roll Call

**ASFC Present:** Erik Ekman (for Isabel Alvarez-Sancho) (FLL), Leticia Barchini (MATH), Brad Bays (GEOG) Lee Brasuell (TH), Joe Cecil (CS), John Gelder (CHEM), Emily Graham (HIST), Apple Ingrek (PHIL), Ted Kian (SMSC), Lynn Lewis (ENGL), Jeff Loeffert (MUSI), Chad Malone (SOC), Linda Watson (PBEE), Peter Ritchsmeier (CDIS), Stephen Nemeth (POLS), Mark Sisson (ARTS), Gil Summy (PHYS), Mary Towner (IBIO), Lan Zhu (STAT).

**ASFC Absent:** Ed Burkley (PSYC), Babu Fathepure (MICR), Jay Gregg (GEOL).

**Administration Present:** Dean Bret Danilowicz, Associate Dean Bruce Crauder.

(3) Approval of the May Minutes

John Gelder made a small correction regarding the attribution of a statement included in the May minutes. Lynn Lewis made the motion to approve and the council voted in favor of the motion.

(4) Approval of the Agenda

Motion to approve made by Gelder, second by Graham Agenda approved.

(5) Standing Committees

Chairperson Loeffert explained that members of A&S committees are selected by Department Heads. He presented the council the list of new appointments to standing committees for approval. Lewis moved to approve the list

- College Policy and Planning: Maureen Sullivan (PSYC),
- Curriculum Committee: An Cheng (ENGL) and Eve Ringsmuth (POLS),
- Rules and Procedures: Hongbo Yu (GEOG) and (vacancy for ARTS expected to be appointed by the end of the week), and
- Scholarship: Naria Beach (TH) and Alex Greer (POLS).

Brasuemll second and the list was approved.

Next, the council chose the chairs of the standing committees.

- College Policy and Planning: Jay Gregg agreed to continue serving as chair of the committee;
- Curriculum Committee: John Gelder;
- Rules and Procedures: Emily Graham;
- Scholarship: Lynn Lewis.

Brasuell move to approve, the council voted in favor.
(6) Administration of A&S awards

Dean Danilowicz asked the Council to revise the description A&S awards criteria in order to eliminate ambiguities and to encourage more applications. The Dean also asked the Council to handle the selection process. In the past, former Regent Professors were asked to serve in the selection committee. It was not always possible to form the committee in a timely manner. The Dean explained that his request is in part motivated by the feedback he received from former selection committees. The College of Arts and Science offers two awards: The Junior Faculty Award and the Wise-Diggs-Berry Award (for Music, Theatre, Arts and English).

Barchini proposed that the Scholarship Committee handles the description of criteria and the nominations for the Junior Faculty Award. The motion was second and approved by the Council.

Brasuell proposed that a committee from Music, Theatre, Arts, and English be formed to rewrite the criteria and to administer the Wise-Diggs-Berry Award. Ritchsmeier second and the motion was approved.

(7) Early tenure applications in the RPT process

Chairperson Loeffert open a discussion on the requirements for early tenure. Concerns were raised about ambiguity in the language of the RPT document regarding requirements for early promotion. In particular, Dean Danilowicz asked the Council to study (a) modifications to the RPT document that incorporate precise language regarding early promotion criteria (b) if candidates that apply for early tenure fail, should/could be reconsidered at a latter time. Crauder clarified that the existing document does not address (b). Dean Danilowicz explained that by the end of the year he needs a document to be voted on at the A&S faculty assembly.

Loeffert asked about appointments letters that include early evaluation for promotion. Dean Danilowicz responded that such letters include a paragraph to address (b). Bays spoke about (a) and argued that exceptions depend on the culture of the department and the discipline. Lewis observed that early promotion is sometimes used to enhance recruitment.

Loeffert proposed the discussion be delegated to a committee. Graham moved to table the discussion and Lewis second. The Council approved.

(8) Evaluation of A&S Centers

A Policies and Procedure document for A&S Centers was written in 2013 under Dean Danilowicz. The Council was asked to review the document prior to the meeting in connection to a proposal to create a center titled Oklahoma Center for Advanced Infrared Technology. The Council engaged in a discussion to clarify the purpose, meaning and relevance of Centers in the College. Various members shared information on existing and passed centers. A common theme was that centers tend to disappear after a few years for lack of external funding. Centers are expected to be successful at fund raising.

Dean Danilowicz explained that the goal of A&S Centers is to promote and facilitate larger groups to work together (interdisciplinary or not). The potential benefit is two-fold. Large groups can hope to attract more funding and also can address larger scale research projects. He also explained that
Centers should not be focus on a piece of equipment. Dean Danilowicz emphasized that approved A&S Center will be given priority in the distribution of resources.

Loeffert pointed out that the Council should vote on the proposal to create Oklahoma Center for Advanced Infrared Technology within two meetings. Brasuell corrected him, as the document only says “consider within two meetings”. In any case a decision needs to be made soon. It was decided the Council will vote on the proposal during the September meeting.

(9) Dean’s Report

- The Dean emphasized that changes in the RPT document regarding early-tenure need to be completed prior to the A&S Convocation.
- During the May meeting, the Council decided that non-tenure faculty should have the opportunity to be represented in this Council. The Dean requested the Council to specify the extent of non-tenure faculty participation. For example, the Council should decide if non-tenure faculty will be voting members or not.
- A Post-doctoral program at the College level aimed to enhance diversity was announced as running and on track. There are two positions for the Physical Sciences, one for the Social Sciences and one for Arts and Humanities. The successful applicants will be appointed for two years with a sallay of approximately $50,000. After two years, depending on performance, the position might be turned into a tenure-track position.
- The work done by the university team ADVANCED was praised. The Dean is encouraging A&S departments to talk and work with the team.

(10) Closing

Loeffert announced that during this semester the Council will have different meeting places.

Motion to adjourn made by Ritchsmeier.