



## College of Social Science Faculty Advisory Council Meeting

Friday, September 15, 2023

1:00 PM

Zoom

### Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Erik Altmann (PSY), Ryan Bowles (HDFS), Clifford Broman (SOC), Carl Davidson (CSS Assoc. Dean), Brent Donnellan (Dean), Dulebohn, James (HRLR), Sue Grady (GEO), Joseph Hefner (ANP), Joseph Kozakiewicz (SW), Trish Machemer (SPDC), Mahesh Nalla (CJ), Victoria Pierce (DEI Office Manager) Stormi Rios (Exec Staff Asst.), Ethan Segal (HST), Michael Wahman (PLS), Jay Wilson (EC)

**Absent:** Zach Neal (PSY)

### AGENDA

#### 1. Dean Brent Donnellan--2023-2024 Plans

Carl Davidson called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM. FAC members introduced themselves. Dean Donnellan thanked the FAC members for serving on the council, and provided the following updates:

- There will be a grant competition for Generative AI, and a College Town Hall was recently held to discuss this issue and its implications in the classroom.
- The College held an orientation for new and returning chairs and directors.
- He asked the FAC members to support new faculty and make them feel welcome.
- He will be looking for advice from the FAC regarding the following: the process for reviewing associate deans, the self-study document used for chair/director annual reviews, guidelines for equitable and appropriate compensation for associate chairs and graduate program directors, and faculty appointments with outside funding.

He then welcomed questions from the FAC members. The group discussed the College budget proposal process, RPT Council meeting procedures, and the Generative AI Town Hall meeting. Dean Donnellan thanked the council again before exiting the meeting.

#### 2. Selection of FAC Chair

Carl Davidson reported that the purpose of the FAC is to advise the dean and serve as a sounding board. The council will also be tasked with resolving issues that were important to former Dean Mary Finn that she was unable to resolve before stepping



down from her role. Dr. Davidson noted that the first order of business for this council is to elect a chair, adding that he serves only as a guide and a source of information for the council. He welcomed self-nominations and nominating others. Jim Dulebohn volunteered to be a co-chair, and Trish Machemer agreed to serve with him. Acceptance of the co-chairs was unanimous.

### **3. Selection of RPT Council Members**

Carl Davidson explained that another task of this council is to vote on new members of the RPT Council, which consists of one member from each unit in the College, with half of the members turning over each year. Each unit nominates two members, and the FAC selects the final members. He noted that there is a preference for full professors, as only full professors can vote on promotions from associate to full professor. He then shared the list of nominees with the FAC members and asked that the FAC members provide input on the nominees from their respective units. Votes were sent to Dr. Davidson by private message via Zoom chat. The following faculty members were elected:

Criminal Justice – Jennifer Cobbina-Dungy

Economics – Arijit Mukherjee

Geography – Geoff Henebry

HRLR – Mark Roehling

Political Science – Jennifer Wolak

Social Work – Fei Sun

Sociology – Zhenmei Zhang

### **4. Compensation for Unit Administrators**

Carl Davidson reported that one of the issues that former dean Mary Finn was working on is looking at the compensation offered to administrators at the unit level, and how it varies across units. He added that many units are struggling financially, some of which may be due to mismanagement of funds. Dr. Davidson shared the following information collected from units:

- Administrative positions within units
- Compensation packages for Chairs/Directors
- Compensation packages for Associate Chairs/Directors
- Compensation packages for Graduate Program Directors
- Compensation packages for DEI Coordinators

Dr. Davidson asked the FAC members what information they would need to help them create some guidelines for compensation packages. Their responses are noted below:

- Description of duties



- Support staff for these positions
- Size of relevant responsibilities for Graduate and Undergraduate Directors (statistics)
- List of administrative positions in each unit
- Other college practices

Carl Davidson noted that former Dean Mary Finn and current Dean Brent Donnellan are looking for guidelines with a range of compensation packages based on whether a unit is small, medium, or large. He added that this will be discussed further at the next meeting, where he will share the requested information. The goal is to have guidelines created by the end of the year.

#### **5. Matters Arising**

Carl Davidson reported that the council will also be addressing a standard workload for teaching-focused faculty. He noted that FAC meetings will be held on the third Friday of every month at 1:00 PM. The group agreed to continue meeting virtually for now.

#### **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15PM.