

## **College Advisory Committee Minutes January 21, 2016**

**Present:** Chris Long (Dean), Ann Folino White (THR), Rocío Quispe-Agnoli (RCS), Justus Nieland (ENG), Ann Mongoven (RS), Julie Lindquist (WRAC), Jon Frey (AAHD), Catherine Ryu (L&L), Madeline Shellgren (Graduate Student), Julio César Paredes (Graduate Student)

- 1) White convened the meeting at 3:20 pm.
- 2) The committee approved the agenda unanimously.
- 3) The committee approved the minutes from the December CAC meeting, after an amendment, and two abstentions from members who were not present in the December meeting:

The 12/03/2015 meeting minutes said:

“Members of the Council agreed that voting rights and committee representation should be extended to academic specialists, and that that can be achieved by moving mention of “specialist” from the “other” category (1.1.3) to the “fixed-term” section (1.1.2) and that the “fixed-term” designation be renamed to “fixed-term and specialists.” Blythe offered to make the necessary changes to the CAL Bylaws, to track those changes, and to submit the revision to the Council for discussion at the January meeting.”

Approved amendment follows:

Members of the CAC agreed to propose revisions to the bylaws that extend voting rights and committee representation to academic specialists, and that that can be achieved by moving mention of “specialist” from the “other” category (1.1.3) to the “fixed-term” section (1.1.2) and that the “fixed-term” designation be renamed to “fixed-term and specialists.” Blythe offered to make the necessary changes to the CAL Bylaws, to track those changes, and to submit the revision to the Council for discussion at the January meeting. This proposal will be drafted and submitted to the College voting faculty for a vote in the spring semester.

4) Dean Long’s remarks:

- The Dean is soliciting responses to the fall planning document from departments, through their department chairs. The chairs have been asked to post these responses on the CAL website, so that departments’ strategic planning be made transparent.
- As part of this transparency, the Dean’s fall planning letter has been posted on the CAL website. It is a “living document.” This desire for transparency and is also reflected in the Dean’s online writing on Medium, and through his blog, “The Long

View.” Faculty are encouraged to read and respond. These platforms of public writing are meant to reflect ideas in progress, not doctrine.

- The CAL Summer Faculty Fellows program, described in the fall planning letter, is operational.

- The CAL Citizens-Scholars planning committee has been set, and will meet January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

- By way of introducing Senior Associate Dean David Prestel, Dean Long expressed his desire to think creatively about Academic Specialist positions, structuring them in ways that might serve to recruit faculty who might prefer them to tenure-stream lines elsewhere. He also expressed his belief that faculty in various appointments at MSU should be involved in decisions that directly impact their professional lives.

#### 5) Senior Associate Dean for Human Resources and Personnel remarks

- Senior Associate Dean Prestel parsed carefully the differences between various academic appointments, and the institutional history behind those appointments, including: fixed-term faculty, “Designation B” fixed-term faculty, Academic Specialists, and Senior Academic Specialists

- Senior Associate Dean Prestel also described differences between fixed-term faculty and Academic Specialists with respect to their reappointment and promotion processes, and their way of entering the continuing system; these appointments’ various relationships to a union; the possibility of re-naming fixed-term faculty as “lecturers” at various levels, in keeping with practices at peer institutions; the need to formalize an annual review process for Academic Specialists across units.

- Senior Associate Dean Prestel responded to CAC members’ questions about these positions.

6)Senior Academic Specialists Karen Kangas-Preston (THR) and Beth Judge (CAL) described their positions with CAC members, followed by a discussion with CAC members.

7) The CAC agreed to discuss language for a proposal to CAL bylaws regarding Academic Specialists voting rights and committee representation at the next meeting. Folino-White agreed to draft language to circulate to the CAC in advance to discuss in our next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Justus Nieland