Minutes of the May 10, 2022 faculty meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:02 pm on Zoom by Dean Adrian Randolph.

I. Approval of the Minutes of the Faculty Meeting of May 10, 2022.

The minutes of the Faculty Meeting of May 10, 2022 were approved.

II. Announcement of Retiring Faculty

Associate Dean for Faculty Matthew Johnson announced the retirements of the following faculty members:

- Art History – Robert Linrothe
- Chemistry – Eric Weitz
- English – Betsy Erkkila
- English – Christopher Lane
- French & Italian – Alessandra Visconti
- French & Italian – Jane Winston
- German – Marcus Moseley
- German – John Paluch
- History – Henry Binford
- Molecular Biosciences – Robert Lamb
- Physics & Astronomy – David Meyer
- Political Science – Mary Dietz
- Political Science – James Farr
- Political Science – Benjamin Page
- Sociology – Charles Camic
- Sociology – Wendy Griswold
- Sociology – Carol Heimer
- Sociology – Albert Hunter
- Sociology – Aldon Morris
- Spanish & Portuguese – Patricia Nichols
- Spanish & Portuguese – Susan Pechter
- Writing Program – Robert Gundlach
III. **Recommendation of candidates for Weinberg College degrees to be awarded at the June Commencement**

Dean Randolph moved for conferral of Bachelors of Arts degrees on June 12, 2022 for the 959 Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences students who completed degree requirements this academic year, and for conferral of 3 Bachelor of Philosophy degrees and 15 Bachelor of Science in General Studies degrees from Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences for those students enrolled in the School of Professional Studies.

The faculty voted to approve the conferral of these degrees. The results of the vote were 31 in favor and 0 opposed. Dean Randolph pronounced the motion carried.

IV. **Proposal to create an opportunity for students to count some courses graded with a P in Pass/No Pass grading basis toward Foundational Disciplines**

Associate Dean for Undergraduate Affairs Mary Finn introduced the first reading of the proposal to create an opportunity for students to count some courses graded with a P in Pass/No Pass grading basis toward Foundational Disciplines. Namely, this proposal would allow students to take two foundational courses in a pass/no pass grading basis. Associate Dean Finn shared that currently students are prohibited from fulfilling distribution requirements with a Pass/No Pass grade.

Associate Dean Finn reminded the faculty that this proposal would apply to the new distribution requirements—these requirements were put on hold due to the pandemic, but are on track to be implemented fall 2023. She shared further background on this proposal, noting the extension of the Pass/No Pass deadline. Associate Dean Finn proceeded to open the floor for questions.

V. **Dean’s Updates**

Dean Randolph shared his gratitude for the service of Associate Dean for Graduate Ann Bradlow and Senior Director of Development Kim Milstein Buckley, ahead of their assumption of new roles.

Dean Randolph shared that Associate Dean Bradlow would be returning to her home department of Linguistics and beginning a term as vice president of the American Acoustical Society. He commended her work which included the advancement of the College’s curricular requirements, collaborative efforts on the founding of CNAIR and CRES, and shepherding graduate studies administration through the last several years of change. He also noted her unwavering commitment to and strategic implementation of diversity, equity, and inclusion measures throughout the College during her tenure in the Dean’s Office.
Dean Randolph noted Associate Dean Bradlow would be succeeded in her role by Professor César Braga-Pinto.

Dean Randolph then announced that Buckley would be starting a new role as the Executive Director of Development. He commended her many contributions to Weinberg College including her fundraising prowess and tutelage, and her invaluable insights as a double Northwestern alumnus.

Dean Randolph proceeded to acknowledge the departure of President Morty Schapiro, who’s academic appointment is housed in the Department of Economics. Dean Randolph commended President Schapiro’s service to the university, noting his commitment to financial stability and recovery post-recession, diversifying the student body, successes in increasing Pell-eligible student enrollments, and a 73% increase in faculty membership of major national academies.

Dean Randolph shared that communications would soon go out about Weinberg College’s new degree requirements, spoken about by Associate Dean Finn earlier in the meeting. He noted that these requirements will need to be well-understood by the College’s faculty, and that the proposed changes embody an evolution of existing degree requirements.

Dean Randolph continued to offer a broad overview of the College. He first noted a dramatic uptick in faculty hiring, particularly relating to efforts to diversify the faculty. He noted that seven years ago the tenure line faculty population was 23% black, indigenous people of color and today it is 43%. Next, Dean Randolph shared that the University maintains a list of what are considered, by AAU standards, “highly-prestigious awards.” Of those awardees at Northwestern, 66% are in Weinberg College. Dean Randolph noted that this is especially impressive given Weinberg College is home to only 34% of the faculty. Additionally, he shared the College has 75% of National Academy of Science members, and 67% of American Academy of Arts and Sciences members.

Dean Randolph noted some challenges facing the College, specifically in response to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on faculty and staff salaries. He conveyed that increasing faculty and staff salaries are a top priority of the College in the coming years.

Finally, Dean Randolph and wished everyone a pleasant summer.

There being no further updates, Dean Randolph thanked the faculty for their dedication, excellence and perseverance in another pandemic-affected year and the meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by Quinn Leach, Weinberg College Program Coordinator.