CLA Senate Agenda
March 21, 2022 | Zoom

1. **Approval of Agenda**
   a. approved – no abstentions, no opposed

2. **Approval of Minutes**
   a. approved – no abstentions, no opposed

3. **Dean's report**
   a. No feedback on budget request (No news is good news?)
      i. April 1st budget will be uploaded to system
      ii. Scenario 1: status with maybe some adjustment
      iii. Scenario 2: austerity 10%
      iv. Scenario 3: 10% increase

   b. This is the week to respond to Deans about hiring feedback
      i. Have submitted requests from chairs to the provost
      ii. Once grand scholarly challenges are finalized and reports from strategic planning we will be able to align requests

   c. Don't know what travel will be like for next few months
      i. Talk to colleagues to submit requests for travel funding
      ii. Spend the money so it doesn't get taken away!

   d. Pedagogical innovation fund gives out awards for faculty who want to tweak course, use pedagogically innovative approach
      i. Hopefully more money coming once budget is released

   e. Questions from senators:
      i. Will junior fac will get "back pay" for CLRs under new contract?
         1. Stay tuned, not sure yet

4. **Moderator's report**
   a. Fac Council-Provost ongoing conflict
      i. Have gone into official mediation
      ii. Senate SEC has met several times and decided to not get into the great email statement flurry
         1. Too likely to get faculty to start arguing with each other and picking sides. This distracts from main concern, which is that Provost is not listening and communicating.
      iii. Provost had planned to hold "listening sessions" with college governing committees. We indefinitely postponed this meeting given the ongoing

issues with communication. SEC will revisit after the mediation has occurred and reassess.

b. Working on getting general education approval more manageable
    i. Eliminate excessive process for WISER descriptions
    ii. Narrow and problematic understandings of "diversity" that focus on what the gen ed committee believes and not honoring the individual faculty's experience
    iii. We would like to hear more from people's experiences with gen ed. You can remain anonymous if you wish
        1. Sarah happy to communicate via phone or zoom, etc.

c. We are nearing end of academic year and time to reconstitute the Senate. Over next 2 weeks Sarah will be contacting you.
    i. If you are a department representative you can do a second term, but after that you must rotate. It is up to your department whether they appoint or hold elections.
    ii. If you don't hear from Sarah it means you have another year left on your term.
    iii. There will be two at-large senators, both of whom are ending the terms
    iv. Look for emails from Sarah and pester your department to get representatives
    v. Senate standing committees are a lower stakes committee if you have concerns about getting to the political mix, good junior faculty service

d. Reminder re Undoing Racism trainings are coming up, details in recent email
    i. Please consider doing and share with department
    ii. It should count as professional development on your AFR
    iii. It is difficult to justify funding for these sorts of things if no one is doing them. Also, undoing racism is obviously real important.

e. Cinzia Solari is coordinating with local group for relief resources for Ukraine.
    i. Cinzia personally knows organization and can vouch for them (Boston Aid for Ukraine)
        1. doing drive for medical equipment, clothing, winter coats, children's toys, financial donations to ship to Poland and Romania. Org cannot get items directly to Ukraine but can do so for refugee. Organization is requesting things specifically needed.
            a. Medicine and bandages are always needed
            b. Things that bring joy (ie last round they delivered winter coats with toys stuffed in pockets).
        2. If every department did their own outreach. Issue is where to store items. Org is currently search for storage facility. Folks on

the ground are going to need supplies for many, many months into the future regardless of when Russia pulls out.

    3. Departments can have drop off spot in office. Cinzia will come collect and drive to organization site.

        a. Email C if your department wants to participate

        b. May be able to coordinate department drop off locations by building (ie Wheatly)

    4. Sarah will let Chairs know about this initiative on Wednesday

f. Clarification on piece of information regarding online course development. Has been much confusion, refer to FSU email for specifics

    i. $3,000 stipend is essentially payoff for intellectual property, if you leave UMB someone else gets to teach it

    ii. This money has *not* run out, if you are thinking of designing an online course, be sure to contact FSU and let your departments know

        1. Form is signed by chair, dean, provost, FSU

        2. Not all courses will be approved, must provide pedagogical justification

        3. Harder to get money to redesign a current f2f course into an online course, more likely to get a brand new course funded

        4. Funding does get exhausted within fiscal years, so it is worth checking and maybe putting it off to the next year when money becomes available again

g. Curriculog committee in throes of revising entire governance process for approving new courses at UMB

    i. Goal of committee was to streamline approval process

    ii. Finally created one set of documents that outline the different kinds of forms that exist in Curriculog, the workflow, and the forms that you will need.

    iii. Please share drafts with Chair, GPD (if you have one) and the department curriculum committee

    iv. Currently three levels of approval, small, moderate, major

        1. Not immediately clear that you need all or more than one, but often the approval steps are the same

    v. Revision is that there are now "superficial" and "substantial" proposal

        1. Superficial is issues like a typo in a course description or small changes like course number (201 to 250) title changes that don't change content, would enable week or two or so approval because they don't need committee approvals, just Chair approval

        2. Substantial would have different workflow based on type of change (eg, new course, new program). These must go through

full governance review. 4-6 weeks depending on committee schedule.

  vi. Governance review has two purposes:
    1. approving the actual curriculum/courses
    2. tracking trends (grad programs no longer requiring GREs, certain types of programs are closed) to inform how departments may make curricular or programmatic changes.
  vii. Please share long document with department and provide feedback by April 8th. Goal is to make process clear.

5. Proposals from AAC
 a. New Courses
  i. HIST 686
    1. Will be "topics" style course that will have different thematic content based on expertise of who is teaching it
    2. Approved with no abstentions or opposed

 b. Changes to existing courses (these were sent back from gen ed committee requiring changes to descriptions)
  i. ENGL 258
  ii. HIST 186
  iii. WGS 247
    1. Approved with no abstentions or opposed

6. New Business
 a. Research connections across the college
  i. Discussion about cluster hires raised importance of cross disciplinary teaching and scholarship; we can begin to do this now.
  ii. Brainstorm of ideas that Sarah will bring to Dean and ask for launch money
    1. Format
      a. Panels/lectures
      b. internal CLA conference
      c. thematic reading groups with food
      d. speed "dating" to make connections around research interests
      e. financial renumeration or CLR
      f. CLA mini version of junior faculty research seminar

    2. Topics
      a. Comparative futurisms (afrofuturism, indigenous futurisms, postcolonial futures, transformative futures)

b. Queer studies across humanities and social sciences
c. Algorithms and machine learning
d. Language pedagogy
e. Anti-racist pedagogy in liberal arts classroom
f. Post-/intra-conflict studies

3. Questions/notes
   a. Make clear to Dean's office that these would require funding to support (not just have run on zoom)
   b. How to usefully manage and archive information generated from these events? (Eg; pay a grad student to organize a Slack)
   c. How can we think otherwise about all this in this particular moment of extreme exhaustion/possibility of moment for change)

b. CSM letter regarding mission statement
   i. Concerns with how administration could weaponize the language in the proposed mission statement (ie: further exert control over faculty autonomy and intellectual freedom)
   ii. This discussion began with academic continuity task force 2 years ago
      1. Emerged in response to covid pandemic and uprisings surrounding the police murder of George Floyd
      2. The provost-chancellor email has illustrated the circular nature of this
         a. Anti-racism is endemic to this campus (and everywhere else), but administration used anti-racism when their power was critiqued
      3. Provost-chancellor email created conditions for CSM letter

c. Shared governance and power conversation
   i. Moved to next meeting due to time; ongoing conversation

7. Adjourn