

**University of Wisconsin-Madison
College of Letters and Science
Office of the Dean
105 South Hall**

**LETTERS AND SCIENCE
FACULTY SENATE**

March 13, 2017

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COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE FACULTY SENATE MEETING

**13 March 2017
3:45 – 5:00 p.m.
6102 Social Science
Agenda**

1. Listening Session with Dean Scholz

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COLLEGE OF LETTERS AND SCIENCE FACULTY SENATE MEETING

14 November 2016

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.

228 Ed Sciences

Agenda

Attendance: 25 senators; 6 guests; 2 presenters

1. Professor Michael Wagner presented the Report of the L&S Curriculum Committee (L&S FacDoc 300). He summarized the committee's work evaluating L&S departments' requests to add, change, and delete courses; non-L&S departments' requests to have courses count toward L&S degree requirements; proposals to revise program requirements; and requests to comment on changes to college and campus policy affecting curriculum. There were no questions.
2. Announcements and Updates were incorporated into the next agenda item.
3. Dean Scholz's overview of the "State of the College" provided updates on the following topics:
 - Faculty hiring: faculty positions funded with state support, foundation funds, gifts, and program revenue were authorized.
 - Compensation: various tools are sufficient to support pay increases for 1/3 of university and academic staff, and 1/5 of the faculty.
 - Revenue generation: changes to allocation of tuition revenues for Summer sessions helped L&S. Enrollments increased by 30%, and departments shared in tuition revenue generated. Other revenue generating programs were also successful last year.
 - Philanthropy: L&S has made it 58% of the way to a \$508M fundraising goal. Estate gifts may not arrive for some time. Endowment gifts pay out at 4.5 percent of the endowment total. Philanthropy will help the College's budget. But it will not alone solve our challenges...
 - Challenges: The university is not growing revenue fast enough to offset many years of budget cuts (down 11.1% in the past ten years, and state support is now only 15% of the budget). The Regents' budget request is for a "flat" budget.
 - Outreach: University is working hard to "get the message out" to supporters across the state, with new advertising campaigns and other efforts.
 - Students: L&S continues to teach more than 55% of all student credit hours taught at UW-Madison, and more than 80% of the credits taught to first and second year students. Dean Scholz noted that we work hard to create value for students, to ensure that they are able to thrive and to lead, and he emphasized that hate, bias, intolerance, and disrespect are not among our values. Work is under way to create a welcoming environment that fosters learning for all students, to reduce grade and graduation gaps

between majority and non-majority students, and to increase the diversity of faculty, staff, and students.

- Other good news: the new Hamel Music Center, successful retentions, new college website.

Senators asked questions about college-sponsored workshops on creating inclusive classroom environments, building safety, and Summer Session Revenue opportunities.

5. Dean Scholz presented the Report of the L&S Academic Planning Council for 2015-16 (L&S FacDoc 301). He highlighted several actions the council approved:
 - Plans to restructure the new Department of Asian Languages and Culture and the new Department of German, Nordic, and Slavic; these plans have been implemented.
 - A request to restructure the Department of History of Science was approved; the plan to merge with History was approved in September.
 - Many academic program reviews were completed. These are important tools for evaluating and improving the quality of L&S programs, and they can have an important, positive impact on departments and programs. Dean Scholz encouraged Senators to participate in reviews as committee members when asked.There were no questions or comments about the report.

4. Professor Sabine Gross presented the Report of the Faculty Honors Committee for 2015-16 (L&S FacDoc 302). She provided an overview of the report, reminding Senators that each UW-Madison school and college has its own program; L&S has the largest, which is modeled on challenging students to combine high achievement with being highly motivated and participate in challenging integrative Honors activities. She concluded with an invitation to the faculty to teach more Honors courses and to supervise Honors-level undergraduate research. There were no comments or questions about the report.

5. Notes of the L&S Faculty Senate meeting held 30 November 2015 were accepted.

Dean Scholz then invited Senators to watch a video that will be used for outreach about the college. There were no further comments or questions, and the meeting was adjourned.