

L&S Senate, Fall 2017 Meeting

Monday, November 20, 2017, 3:45 - 5:00 p.m.

104 Van Hise Hall

25 Senators were in attendance; Dean Scholz chaired the meeting.

1. There were no announcements.
2. Notes of the L&S Faculty Senate meeting held 14 November 2016 were circulated and accepted as record of the meeting.
3. The Report of the L&S Curriculum Committee for Academic Year 2016-17 was distributed as L&S Faculty Document 303. Professor Michael Wagner presented a summary of the report, and responded to questions about its contents. Senators asked about the number of course proposals reviewed by the committee, changes in committee practice to share information about program changes with the advising community, and the creation of new L&S course designations to facilitate auditing of foreign language level and retrocredits. Professor Wagner and the committee were thanked for their efforts on behalf of the college, and the report was filed.
4. The Report of the Faculty Honors Committee for Academic Year 2016-17 was distributed as L&S Faculty Document 304. Professor Sabine Gross, Director of the L&S Honors program, presented the report. She provided an overview of the honors program and summarized a few of the major initiatives undertaken by the committee in addition to its usual business. Importantly, the program participated in the implementation of “the Guide,” which has replaced all versions of the undergraduate catalog. The program engaged in consultation with departments and programs about requirements, alignment with policy, revisions to programs, and implementation in the Degree Audit System and Guide. In addition to this work, the program launched a new website and participated in new community outreach activities. There were no questions for Professor Gross, and the report was filed with thanks for her leadership of the program.
5. The Report of the L&S Academic Planning Council Academic Year 2016-17 was distributed as L&S Faculty Document 305. Dean Scholz, as chair of the council, presented the report, which enumerates APC review and approval of requests to restructure L&S departments and to revise academic programs. The the council approved proposals to rename L&S units (the Mead-Witter School of Music, the Information School, and Integrative Biology), and to create new certificate programs (like the certificate in Digital User Experience Design). The council also completed a number of the regular reviews of existing academic programs. Dean Scholz expressed his gratitude for the faculty who engage in the review process either because their departments conduct reviews, or because they serve on review committees. There were no questions about the work of the council.
6. State of the College and Q&A. Dean Scholz provided an overview of the some of the celebrations, challenges, and initiatives involving L&S, and congratulated several L&S

faculty and staff who had earned campus teaching and research awards. He provided an overview of budget challenges that L&S and campus continues to face and described progress made in developing new programs, increasing summer enrollment, and successful advancement efforts. This progress has allowed L&S to hire faculty and provided opportunities for salary increases. Emphasizing support for undergraduate student success, he reported that L&S Career Services had rebranded itself as “SuccessWorks” and had moved to new space that affords better service for students and potential employers. Similarly, L&S Advising Services has moved to a new, central location in Ingraham Hall. In addition, Dean Scholz provided an overview of the Chancellor’s remarks about campus’ commitment to diversity, safety of its students, staff and faculty, and issues related to free speech. In discussion, senators engaged in conversation about the campus climate survey, campus and L&S efforts to foster diversity and to support inclusive teaching, and academic freedom as it relates to courses and student-driven inquiry.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Submitted by

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