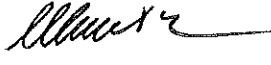




To: College of Arts & Sciences Faculty

From: Leonidas G. Bachas 
Dean

Subject: College Faculty Meeting Minutes
Lowe Art Museum, Monday, April 29, 2013 at 3:30 p.m.

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2013

Present: 86 Voting Faculty present

1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 19, 2013 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2013 meeting was offered by Dean Bachas, seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Proposal for a 5-year dual degree program in Art History Museum, and Curatorial Studies – Senior Associate Dean, Perri Lee Roberts

Professor Perri Lee Roberts introduced the proposal for a new M.A. Program in Art History Museum and Curatorial Studies. She explained that the University has been losing students to other institutions that offered these majors, and that the goal of creating this 5-year dual degree program is retention of students, and also to increase the number of ARH majors. Professor Stampino commented on an issue with the language provision in the proposal that can be addressed internally. Professor Pat Saunders inquired if this would create opportunity for internships and Dean Roberts agreed that it would. The Faculty voted unanimously in favor of the proposal.

Brian Dursum was thanked for again making the Lowe Art Museum available for this meeting.

3. President Shalala's and Provost LeBlanc's visit

President Shalala and Provost LeBlanc arrived to make their visit report to the College faculty meeting for comments and to take questions. President Shalala began by noting that the incoming freshman class will be the academically strongest ever. President Shalala announced that the medical school has made strong progress with financial matters. It will come in with a profit. She added that issues relating to Health Care remain difficult to deal with on a national scale. Also, due to the sequester, and federal budget pressures on NIH, NSF, and other agencies, we face the same challenges as other research universities in the case of faculty, supporting scientists or researchers, and staff who are funded from grants. NIH received only 1% increase; this will have an impact on all research support funding. We need to adjust as we can, and try to manage our way through the current circumstance.

Voluntary Faculty Retirement Plan (VFRP)

Provost LeBlanc took the microphone to update on a number of issues. He reported on the status of the VFRP; more than seventy faculty have taken the VFRP program, some with immediate retirement, others opting for the three-year half-time arrangement. With regard to pension withdrawals from the University plans, a new flexibility for withdrawal of funds is now available, though some restrictions will remain with regard to TIAA/CREF annuity and real estate funds.

New Arts & Sciences Building

The Provost responded to a question about building a new structure for the College of Arts & Sciences. The President indicated that this is her highest priority.

Study-Abroad Expansion

The Provost also mentioned efforts to expand and support study-abroad. We want to develop the UM identity in study abroad programs, and we are looking for donor funding to potentially create an endowment that would provide financial assistance for students who wish to pursue study abroad but cannot afford the cost. He mentioned programs in Cuzco, Peru, the Galapagos Islands, Rome, (with the American University), Prague (with Charles University), Capetown, India, Shanghai, China, Spain, and London that are either in place or in planning. He invited faculty to visit the study abroad orientation for students.

Canelink System

The Provost noted some questions about the Canelink system and Oracle's Campus Solutions. He indicated that changes will take place in multiple systems related to HR, Finance, and other areas. The new Canelink system already enables us to do some things we were unable to do before. For example, we can create waitlists, so we know how many students were not able to get into a class. That is valuable information. At the same time the Campus Solutions system is a "vanilla" implementation. There are things that we cannot do at the moment, but can adapt the system to these needs over time.

University's Strategic Plan

The Provost also commented on progress with the University strategic plan. We are still on course, but of course after the national financial meltdown, we had to be prudent and move more slowly. We now have a master agreement with Coral Gables, which enables us to do some demolition and construction without having to return to the permitting process.

Academic Improvements

There have been a number of successful changes and improvements made at the graduate level. Reviews of programs have been regularized. Some Masters programs have been eliminated; some new high-quality programs have been introduced. At the undergraduate level, we have overall been able to achieve the quality levels we want; we don't need to seek higher student admission numbers than we have; what we want to do is enable students, via financial aid, to remain at UM once enrolled. A significant number of students leave purely because of financial constraints.

University Improvements

The President stepped in to finish the presentation, noting that we have made progress across a number of schools, such as Music, where SAT scores of entering students have increased significantly. She added that we have had a very strong Year of the

Humanities. Our prestigious guest speakers and scholars have had a big impact on students.

Search for Head Librarian

We are also searching for a new Dean of the Library. Bill Walker has indicated he wishes to retire, which is unfortunate, he will be difficult to replace, but we are confident we will get a first-flight individual.

QnA

The floor was opened up for questions and the President was asked about the Washington, D.C. program, which has been successful. The Washington Program is a part of our enrollment strategy. Students whom we would have admitted in spring can come in the Fall term as a cohort.

A question was asked about the fund-raising campaign. We have raised \$1.07 of the \$1.6 billion that is our goal. The President is now traveling to capitalize on support of people who graduated within the last 15 years. These people have had a College experience that is nearer to what the University is today. She and staff are out rebuilding the campaign with an aim to start planned giving among the younger graduates. There are 3 years to go in the campaign.

A concern was expressed about moving from merit- to need-based scholarships. President Shalala said we are still recruiting the best students, but we do need to be sure that the students we admit are able, financially, to finish. We need to keep and able to retain students, especially in their latest years, who are simply unable to continue. We want the best students, and we will try to keep that issue in balance.

4. Curriculum Committee – Professor Geoffrey Sutcliffe

Professor Sutcliffe provided the report on the Curriculum Committee meeting. There have been 191 new courses developed last year as compared to previous year's 104. To date there have been 282 Cognates processed, and it is expected that another 40 are to be approved over the summer. The University Curriculum Committee is still accepting Cognate proposals over the summer. The Committee dealt with the new bulletin language. Professor Sutcliffe thanked Charly Mallery for all of his support.

5. Joint Degree in Public Health and Latin American Studies Proposal – Professor Marten Brien

Professor Marten Brien briefly introduced the proposal. He noted that there is significant demand for this program, and they are expecting very high enrollment. Professor Stampino noted that the foreign language requirement needs to be modified. Professor Brien will revise the proposal to address this requirement. After a brief additional discussion, the faculty voted unanimously in favor of the proposal.

6. Follow-up Plan regarding INS/POL

Motion to approve the proposal relating to INS-POL and merger was put forward as indicated by the Dean.

Proposed Motion:

INS and POL will be separate departments, and an interdisciplinary program will be created under the name Program in International Studies; following Faculty Senate approval, this program will have responsibility for the current BA/BS, MA and PhD

degrees in international studies. No change will be made in the descriptions, degree requirements, objectives and learning outcomes of these programs. Regular Faculty who teach or have taught in these programs over the most recent, and subsequent, three-year periods will form the Steering Committee that will oversee them.

Discussion of various issues ensued. Professor Steve Green proposed a change in the wording of the first provision of the motion and to split the proposal into two separate issues to be voted on separately. After discussion, the faculty rejected the proposal to split the proposal into two provisions to be voted on separately, but the change in wording was accepted as a friendly amendment. The faculty then voted by ballot on the proposal. The vote disclosed a count of 67 YES, 1 NO, and 4 ABSTAIN, on the following motion:

Approved Motion:

The faculty of the College of Arts & Sciences recommends to the Faculty Senate and the Administration that the Departments of International Studies and Political Science be re-created as two separate departments; an interdisciplinary program will be created under the name Program in International Studies; following Faculty Senate approval, this program will have responsibility for the current BA/BS, MA and PhD degrees in international studies. No change will be made in the descriptions, degree requirements, objectives and learning outcomes of these programs. Regular Faculty who teach or have taught in these programs over the most recent, and subsequent, three-year periods will form the Steering Committee that will oversee them.

7. Faculty Senate Report

Professor Steve Green provided the report on the Faculty Senate actions and issues. He spoke of the 2013-14 Faculty Senate Officers election results that will be effective June 1, 2013. He mentioned the Drop/Add deadline that has been moved to accommodate the new Campus Solutions enrollment system. He also stated that the Faculty Senate encouraged faculty to not just pick the first name on the Wait List. Reason being, that the first name on the list is not indicative of a student having been on the waitlist the longest. He mentioned discussions involving the archiving of University email. The double major proposal of Ecosystem and Policy will come back on the table.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. A reception was immediately followed in the Tobin Gallery (courtesy of the Lowe Art Museum).