

To: A&S Council Members

From: Leonidas G. Bachas  
Dean

Subject: MINUTES of the College Council Meeting of March 17, 2014  
Physics Conference Room

Date: March 18, 2014

**12:15 Lunch**  
**12:30 Call to Order**

**1. Approval of the Minutes of the February 11, 2014 Meeting**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting was offered, seconded, and unanimously approved.

**2. Dean's Remarks**

Dean Bachas explained that this year's salary merit pool is less than the previous year. The Provost's office allocated 2% for faculty salary increases, in which a portion will be used by the College to address compression. The Dean plans to request additional funds for market pool from the Provost. He noted several factors that contribute to the low increase in the merit pool. Meetings with each department chair to discuss faculty evaluations and salary recommendations have begun.

Dean Bachas have met with most departments to talk about their strategic plan, which he expects to align with that of the College. Faculty hiring will continue as planned this coming year. He announced plans to develop a College new policy for mandatory mid-term grades to better assist students and help with retention.

**3. Double Counting of Courses between Majors and Minors Proposal**

Professor Geoffrey Sutcliffe noted that the rules on double counting of courses are not in the bulletin. The purpose of this proposal is to get it approved by the College faculty to be recorded in the bulletin. He explained that this proposal offers flexibility and fairness, in which the same course can be double counted toward majors and minors. The College Council approved the proposal to be forwarded to the College faculty at their meeting in April.

#### **4. “W” Courses (Discussion)**

Dean Bachas noted the discussion he had with the Humanities Chairs on how the “W” courses requirement affects the College. Professor Sutcliffe explained that the College Curriculum Committee plans to propose a general writing requirement (three general education “W” courses) at the university level, then specialized communication skills can be taught by individual schools or colleges. The proposal is now shared with the College Council and Department Chairs to provide feedback to Professor Sutcliffe before March 28<sup>th</sup> when the University Curriculum Committee will address this subject.

#### **5. Second Language Requirement (Discussion)**

Professor Sutcliffe noted that the requirements for a second language have not changed; but are listed in a different format to avoid confusion. He asked that faculty review the requirements as there may be some possibility for change. This discussion could continue in the fall semester with all departments that offer BS degree deciding what the second language requirement should be for BS students. Departments that offer BFA and BA degrees should also re-evaluate their requirements for the degree.

#### **6. Proposal for a Master’s Degree in Anthropology**

Professor Linda Taylor presented the rationale for the proposal for a Master’s Degree in Anthropology. There will be minimal financial impact. Studies have been conducted, which reveal the need for such a degree program. A student graduating from this program will receive a Master’s of Arts Degree in Anthropology. The transcript will say Master’s of Arts in Professional Practice in Anthropology. After review, the College Council approved the proposal to go forward to the College Faculty.

#### **7. Other Business**

Dean Bachas encouraged faculty to volunteer to interview students who will be considered for the Singer scholars. The next interview date is March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **8. Announcements**

- Cooper Fellowships --- Call for Nominations - Deadline, March 24, 2014
- Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activities Recognition Reception – April 29<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 p.m. at the Wesley Gallery
- Commencement Ceremonies: Graduate Ceremony, May 8<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.  
Undergraduate Ceremony Arts & Sciences at 8:30 a.m. at the Bank United Center.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.