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Fall 9-16-2021

Minutes, College of Liberal Arts Executive Committee Meeting, Thursday, September 16, 2021

College of Liberal Arts Executive Committe

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

**September 16, 2021
Agenda**

12:30 p.m. in KWR 340

- I. Approval of Minutes from September 2, 2021, Meeting
- II. Announcements
- III. Business
 - a. Proposed Changes to Student Life Committee Handbook and SHIP Grant Program
 - b. Set September 23, 2021, Faculty Meeting Agenda
 - c. College Strategic Planning
- IV. Committee Reports
 - a. Curriculum Committee
 - b. Faculty Affairs Committee



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
August 26, 2021
Minutes

PRESENT

Missy Barnes, Jennifer Cavanaugh, Rosana Diaz-Zambrana, Daniel Elliott, Hannah Ewing, Ashley Kistler, Karla Knight, Richard Lewin, Jill Jones, Jana Mathews, Jennifer Queen, Jamey Ray, Rob Sanders, Susan Rundell Singer, Anne Stone

Excused: Julia Maskivker

CALL TO ORDER

Jana Mathews called the meeting to order at 12:33 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 2, 2021, EC MEETING

Stone made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 2, 2021, EC Meeting. Ewing seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our faculty governance Canvas site goes live today. All the information on the site is available elsewhere on the Rollins website, but this consolidates the information in one place. Ideally, we want all of campus to have access, but adding that many people is tricky, so students and staff who would like access should contact Jana.
- Missy Barnes is starring as “Grandma” in Lost in Yonkers. E-mail Jana if you’re interested in joining an EC watch party.
- Discussions regarding 128 credit hours are happening within divisions now. Once those are complete, we will know where faculty stand on the issue and will move forward from there.

BUSINESS

Proposed Changes to Student Life Committee (SLC) Handbook and SHIP Grant Program

ATTACHMENT #1

Jana Mathews

Proposed changes to the Student Life Committee include adding a mission statement and structural/process changes to the committee and the SHIP grant program. Jana asked if the document goes far enough or whether it should be sent back to SLC for further revision. Is there an opportunity to empower that committee to do more and be more engaged?

Q: Does EC need to approve the changes?

A: Since SLC is an all-college committee, it does not fall under the purview of CLA.

A: That is part of the structural issue we want to work on. Historically, Crummer has not been represented and we will need to go there for approval as well.

A: We try to be inclusive of graduate students, but their concerns are different. Perhaps we restrict this committee's work as an undergraduate committee for CLA and Holt.

There was a recommendation to rename SHIP Grants to Rollins Gateway Grants as a more recognizable program.

As an all-college committee, the President would normally give the committee its charge; however, since the work is already happening, he gave Jana permission to take this back to SLC to reimagine their work.

Set September 23, 2021, Faculty Meeting Agenda

Jana Mathews

The September 23rd Faculty Meeting will include votes on the Graduate Appeals Policy and the closure of the Holt Dance Minor, committee reports, and a strategic planning discussion led by Grant and Susan.

College Strategic Planning

Grant Cornwell and Susan Singer

Grant asked for EC's counsel about the process and timeline for strategic planning. Six years ago, we started a strategic planning process that was complex and ambitious. We had thirteen task forces and 56 actionable recommendations that we've been tracking for the last five years and have largely executed.

It's time for us to collectively ask, what are we going to do now to move Rollins forward? Instead of thirteen, I'm thinking of three questions surrounding Academics, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI), and Sustainability. We could have these conversations on campus before the October board meeting and then launch the next phase of planning.

Queen made a motion to move to a committee of the whole. Lewin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Queen made a motion to reconvene the EC meeting. Lewin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion

I have never seen people so burned out and willing to talk about it. My students are having significant problems. Three of my five top RCC students from last year have left Rollins. We cannot wait to address diversity, equity, and inclusion. People are struggling.

I agree and like this as a compromise. Students like seeing Rollins become more racially and economically diverse. The pandemic has brought horrible acts on campus. Students also really care about the questions of academics and sustainability. As a freshman we discussed the Rollins mission and sustainability. There have been many changes since then and students don't know where we stand on the issue. The process is very faculty-driven, and students are eager to be involved.

I believe a task force on academics ties in with a task force for DEI. When students aren't given a platform to discuss it can lead to problems. Perhaps we charge faculty to find ways to have these conversations in the classroom. I have negative bandwidth, but the issues are time sensitive. The problems will be the same in a couple years and pretending we can fix it later is not a benefit to students.

We must keep moving forward. These problems won't go away, and we will not have more bandwidth next year or the next.

We are not decoupling issues, we are spiraling them and working at a more sustainable pace for the community. This approach allows us to figure out where we stand as a campus.

Sustainability is not an issue students will let us put off for a couple of years. This revised proposal allows us to consider a population we haven't previously addressed – non-salaried staff. Culture work is difficult, but it's the essence of what we're being called to do and creates buy-in for the future.

We only have a part-time sustainability coordinator. In spiraling, when can this question be addressed? There will be budget implications in hiring a chief sustainability director who is knowledgeable about the issues.

Perhaps the Committee on Environmental and Sustainable Initiatives (CESI) can address the issues and scope surrounding sustainability.

There is a narrow framing of the sustainability question that has to do with operations. Broader framing attends to sustainability of an organization where you look at people, the planet, and the prosperity of the organization.

Covid has indefinitely suspended everything. This model allows us to take actionable goals.

What does the model look like for the next five years?

Right after board meeting, I would charge a task force for DEI to address a set of questions. Then, in March I would charge the next task force to look at sustainability.

What if we made concrete plans for goals this academic year and have a short-term goal of actionable items?

There isn't clear direction from this conversation. Should we take this set of questions to the full faculty?

How are we involving our staff colleagues in this conversation?

It's too big and feels overwhelming. Can we talk about a sense of community, issues happening on campus, and how we keep community safe?

What do you want to organize to take to full faculty if anything? Would it help if we presented the spiral conception?

I believe it will be warmly received, but we need assurance it won't be on the table forever.

The President and Provost will present the proposal at the September Faculty Meeting and open it up for questions and discussion.

Queen made a motion to adjourn. Jones seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

ATTACHMENT #1

Proposed Changes to Student Life Committee Handbook and SHIP Grant Program

Context and Rationale:

The most recent iteration of the Student Life Committee Handbook was produced in 2016. In addition to updating the language of the document to reflect current practice, the committee is also proposing structural and process changes to both the committee and SHIP grant program it manages. Taken together, the proposed updates and edits are designed to hone the goals and objectives of the committee, clarify members' roles and responsibilities, and more effectively and fairly serve the needs of our students. The recommendations are made with the unanimous endorsement of the SLC committee and in consultation with the AVP of Student Affairs and the Offices of CCLP, CE, and IP. We are now seeking endorsement from the Executive Committee.

The linked Google document provides a facing-page comparative view of the 2016 handbook and proposed revised text.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zSxExep_6LeYz30jpnSYh5qr5gFKAxWhZ0njczPHSc/edit

The most significant changes are also outlined below:

Committee Structure

- Addition of a mission statement
- Reduction of committee membership to allow for more flexibility and nimbleness

SHIP Grants

- Shift in SHIP grant review process from rolling to 4 deadline-based cycles
- Shift in SHIP grant eligibility to privilege students with demonstrated financial need
- Removal of specific experiences from funding consideration to align with institutional need and resources
- Updated post-experience assignment