



Arts & Sciences Chairs Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2022
Zoom

In Attendance: Colleen Delaney, Blake Gillespie, Liz King, Erick Fleming, Jose Alamillo, Christina Smith, Michael Soltys, Mary Adler, Sean Anderson, Stephen Clark, Sonsoles de Lacalle, Frank Barajas, Geoffrey Buhl, Lynette Landry, Dana Baker, Kimmy Kee-Rose, Sunghee Nam, Gregory Wood, Catherine Burris, Vandana Kohli, Phil Hampton, Trina Darakjy, Marie Abara

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes: Minutes to be approved at next meeting.

II. Information Items:

Welcome to New Chairs and Introductions: Dean Kohli introduced Dr. Sunghee Nam as the new Interim Chair of Sociology and welcomed Michael Soltys, back from sabbatical.

Staffing Update: Dean Kohli will be meeting with all departments that will have new staff joining them. The topic of this discussion is how to introduce new staff into the program and staff roles and responsibilities. Chairs are asked to reach out to Dean Kohli if she does not reach out to the program. MAR Darakjy announced that the Art and Performing Arts Analyst search will begin very soon. The new ASC for Anthropology, ESRM & Sociology, Evelyn Caballero, joined the staff on Monday, January 24th. MAR Darakjy announced an emergency hire is in progress.

Update from MAR: MAR Darakjy indicated that she is currently reviewing the budget and will be meeting with the coordinators and analysts to discuss and review departmental budgets and make necessary adjustments if needed. She informed the group that she is available to review any special funds and provide the staff tools to monitor and track their budgets. Dean Kohli encouraged the Chairs to reach out to MAR Darakjy with any budget questions.

Faculty Requests for Exceptions on Modality: Dean Kohli informed the chairs that the Provost has requested that we should not change modality once students have registered for a class. She encouraged Chairs to be as flexible as possible without disregarding rules, guidelines, and policies. Chairs can manage their department curriculum with flexibility while keeping the integrity of the student learning experience. Dean Kohli reinforced the idea that class modality should be guided by chairs' assessments of student learning outcomes.

Medical Reasons for In-Person Training: Chairs cannot formally approve a faculty members' request for medical accommodations. Accommodations must be approved by HR. A

discussion ensued regarding the development of fall schedule regarding class modality. This topic will be discussed at the next chair's meeting.

III. Discussion Items:

Faculty Searches: Dean Kohli indicated that several programs are bringing in candidates for faculty searches in the upcoming weeks. She would like to meet with departments who are conducting searches this semester to share lessons learned from last semester's searches.

RTP Process: Dean Kohli shared that she completed 41 file reviews this cycle. Lots of faculty identified that their research had suffered because of COVID. Otherwise, everyone did good work during the last year.

Winter Break Updates: Not discussed.

Issues of Accommodations in Classrooms: Not discussed.

IV. Chairs' Items