



**Arts & Sciences Chairs Meeting**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**In attendance:** Vandana Kohli, Phil Hampton, Liz King, Dana Baker, Stephen J. Clark, Frank Barajas, Andrea Grove, Geoffrey Buhl, Jose Alamillo, Sonsoles de Lacalle, Colleen Marie Delaney, Mary Adler, Christina Smith, Lynette Landry, Brian Thoms, Kiki Patsch (for Sean Anderson), Kimmy Kee-Rose, Blake Gillespie, Erich Fleming

**Absent:** Greg Wood

- I. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** Notes from the October 7, 2021, Emergency Chairs meeting were distributed. Minutes for October 21 and 28, 2021, Chairs Council meetings will be distributed by the end of this week.

**II. Information Items**

*Update on Searches:*

- Associate Dean Searches: Dean Kohli asked that two Chairs consider volunteering to serve on this search committee.
- MAR Search: Dean Kohli indicated that Barbara Rex had provided a representative of BFA to serve on the search committee and that a non-MPP staff member/ analyst would also be recruited to serve on the committee. She asked that two Chairs consider volunteering to serve on this search committee. She will be a member of the search committee as the hiring manager and AD Hampton will also be a member of this search committee.
- Staff Searches:

*New Student Convocation:* Dean Kohli encouraged chairs and program faculty to attend the New Student Convocation scheduled for 3- 4 pm on Friday, October 15 in the North Quad.

*Vacation:* Dean Kohli announced that she would be taking vacation days over the next couple of months including days next week.

*Vice Provost Search:* Candidates will be on-campus next week for interviews for the Vice Provost position. Chairs are encouraged to participate in the campus interviews to vet the candidates and to provide feedback. The Search Committee currently does not have a Chair.

*Death of an Art Lecturer:* Dean Kohli announced that Kathleen Quaife, a lecturer in the Art Program, had died this past weekend. She asked that this information be embargoed.

*Winter Intersession:* Interim Dean Leafstedt indicated that there is still an opportunity to request classes be offered in the Winter 2022 Intersession. Only 8 classes have been proposed, all from A&S programs. Chairs are invited to submit additional classes if there is an interest from program faculty.

*Fires North of Goleta:* Due to the Alisal Fire, some students are unable to access the Goleta campus. The Nursing program has moved to implement disruption plans for students attending that campus.

*GI 2025 Monetary Requests:* Dean Kohli indicated that a formal announcement would be coming out for proposals to address the GI 2025 Initiative with funding provided by the Chancellor's Office. She asked Chairs to identify priorities within A&S for funding to meet GI 2025 goals. If proposals were not funded, then some of the requests could become budget requests.

Dean Kohli indicated she supported providing an additional 3 WTU of reassigned time for Chairs to pursue GI 2025 initiatives and the hiring of additional academic support staff; she will lead the development of such a proposal. She encouraged Chairs to develop proposals that are based on evidence and have well-defined outcomes. She offered to have a special Chairs Council meeting to discuss this opportunity and encouraged Chairs to capitalize on this funding opportunity.

Following are additional ideas discussed by Chairs that might be proposed for this funding:

- DFW Rates and First and Second Year Classes: Chair Smith proposed that programs collaborate on approaches to address high DFW rates, especially in first and second year classes in A&S majors.
- Sense of Belonging and Culturally Relevant Pedagogy: Chairs proposed a School-wide effort to build a sense of belonging among A&S students and to encourage faculty to adopt a culturally relevant pedagogy.
- Program Learning Communities: Chair Kee-Rose discussed how Psychology has developed learning communities at the upper division
- Spanish Language Translation: Chair Clark recommended that funding be used to translate the campus website main pages and subpages into Spanish. Dean Kohli asked whether Communication students might also develop short bilingual videos that could be posted on the A&S website as part of this idea.

*Summer Bridge Program:* Dean Kohli provided an update on the Summer Bridge Program to be offered through Student Affairs. This bridge program supports GI 2025 by providing students with credit-bearing five-week classes. Chairs expressed concern about this program being offered through Student Affairs without adequate input from Academic Affairs. Many Chairs indicated they had not been contacted regarding their participation in the Summer Bridge Program. Concern was expressed regarding the difficulty in offering a class over the five-week period. Dean Kohli indicated she would

pursue getting more information regarding this program and report back at the next Chairs Council meeting.

### **III. Discussion Items**

*Syllabus Policy and Compliance:* Dean Kohli asked Chairs to work with their faculty and consider whether they wanted to develop a master syllabus for classes that are typically taught as multiple sections so that there is consistency between sections. She also asked programs to consider including information about the class meeting times vis-à-vis the definition of a credit hour. A credit hour is defined such that a 1 unit class has 1 hour of class meeting time. She noted that any alternative mode of meeting needs to be reflected in the syllabus and must be consistent with this definition. She encouraged Chairs to keep this topic on their “things to do” list.

*Spring 2022 Schedule Discussion:* Dean Kohli asked Chairs to review the notes from last week’s unscheduled Chairs meeting that were distributed through email. She indicated that the campus decided to take a different approach than the FTES and budget cuts discussed at the last meeting and she thanked the CFA, President Yao, and her fellow Deans for their support of taking an alternative approach.

*New STEM Education Funding:* An email will go out to the Chairs regarding an opportunity for the campus to secure STEM Education funding. A total of \$15 billion in new funding has been announced. The funding specifically calls for multidisciplinary approaches. Chairs encouraged funding be requested to support collaborations between traditionally STEM and non-STEM disciplines (e.g., Chicano Studies and Spanish). Chair Gillespie noted that current NSF-funded grants on-campus include BIPOC faculty as collaborators and that the NSF SMART grant addresses the high DFW rate and builds a sense of belonging in students.

### **IV. Chairs’ Items**

*Future Meeting Topics:* Dean Kohli suggested that Chair Gillespie provide an update regarding grant work that he is overseeing. She also suggested having Chair Anderson brief the Chairs on the recent oil spill. Chairs requested an update regarding the Provost’s response to the Chairs memo and how the campus is using funding.