

## **Minutes for Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting, Feb. 9 2021**

Present (via Zoom): David Armstrong (scribe), Josh Burk (co-Chair), Sarah Day (co-Chair), Maria Donoghue Velleca (Dean), Cathy Levesque, Jack Martin, Peter McHenry. Guests: Loni Wright, Sam Rofman, Raman Khanna, Mary Kardos, Laura Mills; Josh Erlich (EPC)

1. We approved the minutes from Feb. 2 2021.
2. Members from the Student Assembly Data Literacy Task Force presented their analysis on possible ways to enhance Data Literacy in the undergraduate curriculum. The motivations for doing so were presented. Student interest in this appears high. Five options were outlined: a new Freshman Experience requirement, a Data Analytics Major requirement, a new COLL course requirement, a new Proficiency requirement, and an adjustment to an existing proficiency. The Task Force presented pros/cons of each approach, and discussed these with the FAC. It appears that the optimal approach may be a Data Analytics requirement for each Major. The next steps were discussed. The students will present to the EPC next. It was suggested that the Dean might organize a Forum for similar presentation to the A&S faculty. Involvement of the CLA was also suggested.
3. Updates from the Dean: Maria discussed a spreadsheet on the present structure of interdisciplinary programs in A&S (resources, authority, etc.) and possible restructuring was discussed, along with possible reorganization of the responsibilities of the Charles Center. A newer version of a proposed reorganization of the Dean's office was discussed. The possibility of a Chief of Staff position for the Dean's office was floated. The connection of the CLA with a newly structured Dean's office was also discussed.
4. David mentioned that Faculty Assembly was considering the possibility of "pausing" faculty merit evaluations for this year, and that a decision would be reached later today.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 3:27 pm.