

## Minutes for Faculty Affairs Committee, May 4, 2021

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Members: David Armstrong, Josh Burk (co-chair), Sarah Day (co-chair), Maria Donoghue Velleca (Dean), Catherine Levesque (scribe), Jack Martin, Peter McHenry

### 1) Approval of the minutes—

The minutes of 27 April were approved

### 2) Updates from Maria—

Maria and Sarah discussed the FAS meeting agenda and timing.

### 3) May FAS meeting

Maria laid out topics to be addressed, these included:

An update on the search for the three Vice Dean positions and the benefits of having the individuals involved reach beyond their area of expertise.

The paused DEI search.

The need for on line courses in the fall. The committee discussed the possible numbers, what sorts of courses might be needed, and how to juggle possible disparities between faculty who do or do not want to be in person and the required courses. Maria noted the sense among her fellow deans that some sorts of classes seem to work well virtually (i.e. languages) and others usually didn't (i.e. labs).

There was discussion of items such as invisible labor and a summer break from committee work (including the DEI search and Data Science reviews) that were not on the agenda but which the Dean plans to address. Jack brought up the useful tradition of May Seminars.

### 4) NTE contracts and planning in German and Italian

Maria reviewed the rationale for not renewing the contracts of NTE faculty in German and Italian.

### 5) Follow-up about Data Science

Maria described the benefits of taking a breather over the summer and revisiting possibilities in the fall.

### 6) Reflection on the past year

Jack raised and Maria seconded the importance of reviewing what did and did not work this past year. It was agreed by all that this is something to be pursued by FAC in the near future.

#### 7) Other business

Peter described the on-going review of the Three Year Hiring Pilot Plan.

The committee discussed the benefits of having at least some A&S meetings on zoom. The consensus was that combining opportunities for in person gatherings (possibly with receptions) to mark the beginning and end of the semester with on-going zoom meetings which would attract the most faculty might work best.

#### 8) Adjourn

The meeting adjourned