

College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Minutes of the Faculty Meeting
September 10, 2012

Dean Virginia Sapiro called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 4:04 p.m. She welcomed all Faculty back to campus.

She asked that Faculty stand and observe a moment of silence for the three Boston University students who died last summer in New Zealand when their van rolled over. They are: Daniela Lekhno (SMG '13), Roch Jauberty (CAS '14), and Austin Brashears (ENG '13). Another student, Chad Di Gregorio (a third-year Archaeology doctoral student) died from a fall in West Turkey.

Dean Sapiro then reminded Faculty of the "Automatic Consent Agenda." Such items will be posted in advance of any Faculty Meetings; Faculty has the responsibility of reading all of the items. Only if there are questions from Faculty, signaled by the Faculty member's getting in touch with the Dean's Office, will the item be put on the Agenda for discussion during the scheduled Faculty Meeting.

New academic policies will never be placed on "Automatic Consent"; they will always be discussed on the floor.

Dean Sapiro adjusted the Agenda so that the Presentation of New Faculty by Department Chairs would be the first order of business. She said she was moving "The Dean's Report" to "New Business."

See Appendix 1, "New CAS Faculty for Academic Year 2012/13."

Old Business - None

New Business

Undergraduate Affairs - The Dean introduced Professor Elizabeth Loizeaux (English), the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs. Her responsibility embraces all aspects of undergraduate education. Professor Loizeaux wants to facilitate university-wide conversations about undergraduate education, to be a voice for students across campus, including both the Medical Campus and the Charles River Campus, and to represent undergraduates' concerns to the central administration. The Undergraduate Council has been looking at policies in the separate colleges and will make recommendations as to which policies should be university-wide. As a community of educators, we are asking questions such as: What do our students need to know? In pedagogy there needs to be a conscious recognition of the distinction between "training" (learning skills about the known) and "education" (developing skills to probe the unknown). Professor Loizeaux finds that students are hungry for such conversations.

Dean's Report:

Dean Sapiro said she was going to break with her usual unrehearsed Dean's Report and read from a text. The full text is included as Appendix 2. Here follows a summary.

Dean Sapiro noted that her first five-year term was completed in the summer of 2012. She has accepted a second appointment.

The Dean believes she is making a difference. It is a privilege to be in a position of leadership at the University, which she sees as moving forward. She referred to the foundational texts provided as handouts, "Mission and Values of the Boston University College and Graduate School of Art & Sciences" and "Fundamental Commitments of the Boston University College and Graduate School of Arts and Sciences." See Appendix 3 and Appendix 4.

The Dean said that both in the Dean's office and in the departments, we have to make choices among many excellent proposals, apply equitable standards of governance, and provide clear statements of policy.

The annual research accounts that have been provided to new faculty and all junior faculty will now be expanded to all research-active tenured faculty. This is not a standard practice at other universities. And she expects all faculty to be active in their research.

Dean Sapiro noted the number of language and culture area studies programs that have come into being or grown significantly, including our first tenure track position in Korean, during her Deanship. The Advising Center, formerly divided between the first floor and basement at 725 Commonwealth Avenue, has moved to the new Center for Student Services at 100 Bay State Road.

CAS is attracting some great students. She feels students entering in the fall of 2012 are the best we have admitted in terms of diversity—both international and socio-economic diversity. However, we need to focus on retention rates, since students with high GPA's are often the ones who leave. She does not want to continue with those courses that fail to attract students. In other words, we need to think about fresh pedagogical approaches that go beyond the usual—"chalk, Power Point, a little discussion, and the test." Faculty need to think about what competencies students need after graduation, ways to embed honors programs in the majors, and more comprehensive advising. The CAS "First Year Experience" program is working well.

Graduate programs will continue to be a focus. To support doctoral study is expensive, but we want to think of the process as "investments." Faculty needs to consider ways to enhance professional development and to study the best graduate programs to see what can be learned.

Boston University is financially healthy, but not wealthy. The CAS budget was \$83 million for FY08, and \$103 million in FY12. Most of the budget goes for salaries. Now

that CAS has a delegated annual budget, we can no longer go to the Provost's office for an infusion of funds for line items; the new approach is better budgeting. Attention will be paid to space and facilities.

She reminded Faculty that the Capital Campaign would be launched in two weeks. She urged faculty to participate in fundraising where they can.

Dear Sapiro continued with her remarks about the state of CAS. Where change will have its biggest impact is in the refreshing of the faculty. Her priority is to hire scholars with international reputations, including those who work across fields. Since President Brown became president seven years ago, CAS has hired 150 faculty. These new faculty members are recreating their fields. It is they who own the future of our College.

Faculty Council Report. There was none.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:00. Dean Sapiro invited faculty to the welcoming reception outside Tsai Auditorium.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Hills
Professor of History of Art & Architecture and
Secretary of the CAS/GRS Faculty

Appendix 1: New CAS Faculty for Academic Year 2012/13

Appendix 2: Dean's Report on the State of CAS

Appendix 3: Mission and Values of the Boston University College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Appendix 4: Fundamental Commitments of the Boston University College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences