**College of Arts and Sciences**

**Minutes of the Assembly Meeting**

**October 22, 2019 3:30 p.m.**

**Members present:** Barry, M., Benz, Berven, D., Berven K., Cesmelioglo, Chapman, J., Charlesworth, Cholis, Cooper, Craig, Epstein, Estes, Garfinkle, Graves, Guest, Knutson, Kidger, Law-Sullivan, LaRock, Li, Landolt, Mathew, McGinnis, Rabii, Rosenthall, Schneeweis, Trivedi, VanKooten, Wieden

Members absent: Villa-Diaz

Ex-Officio present: Banes-Berceli, Shively

Associate Dean Banes-Berceli called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**I. Approval of the Minutes of September 24, 2019**

The minutes of the meeting of September 24, 2019, were approved.

**II. Creation of a Department of Film and Media**

***Motion: To approve the creation of a Department of Film and Media (Epstein, Barry)***

**Discussion:** Associate Dean Banes-Berceli pointed out that the present discussion was essentially a continuation from the March CAS Assembly meeting when the proposal for the creation of this new department was first presented for consideration.

David Garfinkle proposed a friendly amendment to which there was no opposition, to the effect that as the creation of a new department requires a change to the Faculty Agreement, the approval of the AAUP will be sought, either through the Bargaining process, or through the Contract Exception process.

Andrea Eis was present to provide the overview and rationale for the creation of a Department of Film and Media. She characterized the need for this change as the response to growing pains that have been difficult to navigate. She observed that after the disciplinary changes and shift away from the English department, their group does not fit as neatly as before, and, in addition, she noted that the administrative infrastructure does not work as well. She said they are already functioning like a department in a number of ways, but that being their own department would make them more visible to the outside as far as attracting students to their program. She added that the proposed word change from “cinema” to “film” is a result of having discovered that students do not look for them using the word “cinema.” In addition, she pointed out that it is not possible to advocate for their program because she does not attend the meetings of the chairpersons. She noted that there are important implications for the tenure review process for faculty members in their program that would be addressed through this proposal. She explained that the BA in Cinema Studies is 11 years old, and they have 110 majors and therefore it is a solid program that needs to be more visible.

David Garfinkle asked if the proposal needs to be for a big D department because he noted that the units are set by the contract and so there should be union approval or a union exception if this is to be a new unit. He said his only concern was to make sure this move does not violate the contract. He said there should be explicit language so that it is not a unilateral decision agreed upon by the CAS. Andrea agreed, and observed that since the proposed change would not happen before the Fall 2020 semester, it could be a part of the upcoming negotiations.

There were Assembly members who expressed support for this proposal and agreement that the Cinema Studies program is no longer a good fit in the English department because it is a completely different field and is no longer solely about narrative. It was noted that this is not a new program as such, since it all exists already and so what is the most significant is the criteria for review. In addition, it was noted that there is a good job market for students with this major. Ms. Eis pointed out that they would not have a graduate program right away, but eventually this would also be considered.

Assembly members expressed some concerns, including:

* Whether other departments involved with media have been consulted, such as AAH, where they also teach media.
* Whether the name of the department and other common aspects have been discussed across departments, and why the name is being changed.
* What the definition of “media” is in this proposal.
* Whether there is a problem with sharing equipment and space since nobody has enough to begin with.
* Whether the changes for the criteria for review are clear since it is not a new program as such.
* Whether the department will have a chair, administrative changes, and a budget.

Associate Dean Shively affirmed that the proposed department would have a chair, administrative support and a budget.

The motion was made to waive the second reading (Landolt, Van Kooten). The motion carried.

The original motion was passed unanimously.

**III. All University Fund Drive**

Lorie Posey from CAS Development was present to encourage everyone to give to the AUFD, which will come to an end on December 6.

**IV. Actuarial Science Degrees**

Assistant Dean Sandra Dykstra updated the Assembly on the new B.S. in Business Actuarial Science that will be added in addition to the B.S. in Actuarial Science. The B.S. in Actuarial Science is a joint program between the CAS (Department of Mathematics and Statistics) and theSBA, with the students receiving their degrees from CAS. The SBA will now have its own B.S. in that discipline that will include a Business core, and the students will receive their degrees from that school. The core actuarial science curriculum will always be the same for both degrees.

**V. GOOD AND WELFARE**

John Corso announced that the launching of the Center for Public Humanities.

Dean Banes-Berceli encouraged Assembly members to attend the poetry reading by Dunya Mikhail.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dikka Berven (CAS Assembly secretary)