

Faculty Governance Meeting
Minutes
Dec. 2, 2016

Present: Howard Brooks, Tim Good, Bryan Hanson, Bob Hershberger, Glen Kuecker, Pam Propsom, Francesca Seaman

Guest: Ayden Adler, Dean of the School of Music

Announcement. A Working Group is forming to consider the issue of DePauw becoming a Sanctuary Campus.

Discussion regarding School of Music governance. Dean Adler reported that she believes the School of Music (SOM) is making real progress on governance issues and the movement is consistent with recommendations the Faculty Governance Committee made. SOM faculty meetings occur once a week, for business and also search and personnel committees. They are working to clarify some things that were previously not explicit (e.g., what constitutes a quorum, what is consensus). Next will authorize working groups and determine how these groups will share their recommendations with the SOM faculty as a whole. Curriculum review is an ongoing process. Clarification of the 21st Century Initiative and how it relates to curriculum, etc. Need to establish transparency and trust, and then make sure that any procedures instituted are actually followed.

Governance Committee members asked questions of Dean Adler:

Will permanent working groups or subcommittees be constituted? Perhaps in the future. The idea is that the full SOM faculty will issue the charge to the working groups, decide on their time frame for work, and they will report back their recommendations for a full vote.

What role will long-term part-time faculty members play in SOM governance? We are looking to align SOM voting eligibility with that of the full faculty. Also will make sure that they get agendas so they can decide if they want to attend meetings, giving them the opportunity to vote. Dean Adler has moved faculty meetings to Mondays when more part-time faculty can attend.

Governance Committee is considering whether *all* departments should have a governance document similar to the one the SOM is developing (e.g., frequency of departmental meetings, who gets to vote, what constitutes a quorum).

Dean Adler has held a number of open forums with various SOM groups, discussing what has gone well and that they would like to continue, and what needs to be done differently. Three themes emerged: building a culture of trust and transparency, aligning around a shared mission that coheres with 21CM Initiative, admissions (last year was one of their smallest classes and this has a negative effect on morale and adequately filling performance groups).

What recommendations did the Governance Committee make that weren't a good fit with how the SOM operates? Dean Adler appreciated our recognition of the difference between a department and school. Area coordinators for some groups are more useful and necessary (for example, Voice Department) than for others. Dean Adler may convene the areas twice a year to discuss the important issues; some duties will probably be rotated. Depending on what people are teaching, they will attend the relevant area meetings during that semester.

How do you view the Associate Dean of the SOM position and what is the relationship between this position and Dean of SOM (DSOM)? Howard Brooks explained that he and Review Committee are working on creating parallelism: Associate Dean will be a parallel position to department chair and program director or coordinator. People in all of these positions are appointed for a 3-year term, undergo review, and typically there is the option of reappointment once. The Associate Dean of the SOM has a huge job given that the DSOM has many external responsibilities; not every faculty member could step into this position (e.g., it involves understanding accreditation requirements).

How do you view the relationships between the SOM and the CLA? She thinks students in both the CLA and SOM benefit greatly from interaction in both schools. We want liberally trained musicians, and also CLA students who can express their passion for music. Dean Adler is looking forward to finding additional ways that we can work together.

Going forward: in the spring semester, a representative from the SOM will be joining the Governance Committee.

Submitted by Pam Propsom