Attending:  Kristin Bezio, Molly Collins (student), Jessica Flanigan, Don Forsyth, Al Goethals, Julian Hayter, Crystal Hoyt, Peter Kaufman, Gary McDowell, Sandra Peart, Terry Price, Ernesto Semán, Kerstin Soderlund, Susan Taylor, Chris von Rueden
Absen: Joanne Ciulla, Javier Hidalgo (leave), Thad Williamson (leave)

The agenda and documentation were distributed prior to the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Dean Sandra Peart at 12:00 pm.

The minutes of the August 19, 2015 faculty retreat were approved.

Old Business:

Grades of JSLS applicant pool – Sandra reported that, as a follow-up to the last meeting’s discussion on admissions, data were pulled on the grade distribution for students who apply and those who are admitted to the School. The vast majority of both applicants and accepted students have a B or higher grade average. Crystal Hoyt asked for information on students who are eligible to apply. Sandra will complete and report back.

Jepson International Research Grant – Sandra reported that the International Research Grant policy document has been revised.

Reports:

University Strategic Planning – Sandra explained that President Crutcher wants to create a new strategic plan for the University quickly. He indicated that he does not foresee that big changes are necessary, but very much wants to see academics (the schools) take a major role in the strategic planning process. Sandra noted that the academic deans have discussed academic ideas that have been passed to the Provost. She would like to get faculty reaction to those ideas at a special faculty meeting on October 5, noting that this process may matter a great deal to the schools and the University’s academic mission. Dr. Crutcher and Provost Fetrow will be attending a portion of the October 19 Jepson School faculty meeting to address strategic planning.

JSGA – Molly Collins, JSGA VP-Academic Affairs, was introduced. She reported that the JSGA will have its first meeting this week to prepare for Prelude, continue planning for the student lounge renovation, and review and update the JSGA constitution. Molly noted that two juniors are running for the junior senator position. Molly was reminded that the bulletin board outside JPSN 120 needs to be updated.

Assessment – Kerstin Soderlund reported that the Assessment Committee met after the August retreat. The focus of their discussion was on how students have not met the desired outcome of demonstrating their capacity to apply theory through their summer internship papers. The committee would like to continue to focus on ethical reasoning and outcomes, and decided not to make any changes for this year. For the future, however, they discussed options including using a Theories & Models paper or an evaluation at the end of the semester which will serve as a primer for the summer papers. The
committee is working with the faculty who teach Theories and Models to come up with a plan. The Assessment Report must be submitted in October.

Search – Don Forsyth reported that the faculty position has been widely advertised (16 publications/websites) and there are 16 applicants to date.

University Faculty Senate (UFS) – Al Goethals, alternate to the Faculty Senate, referred to the Senate and Cabinet Retreat materials distributed via email prior to this faculty meeting and reported in Joanne Ciulla’s absence by reading her report. Some highlights of the report:

- From the list of concerns elicited at the Jepson August 19th retreat, Joanne took teaching load and communication to the UFS Executive Committee meeting.
- At the first UFS meeting, Joanne suggested that a study on reducing teaching load be conducted and considered part of the new strategic plan.
- The UFS and Cabinet Retreat was “open, informative, and remarkable for this university” with the President giving his goals for this year and the vice presidents present stating their job responsibilities. She highlighted comments from two of the most recent vice president level appointees.

Peter Kaufman noted that the number of high-level administrators has increased threefold in the last seven years; and that while faculty increases have averaged 1-3%, administrator increases have averaged 14-16%. Terry Price expressed his concern that there has not been a University Faculty Meeting yet even though there is a requirement to do so at the start of the year.

Jepson Alumni Corps – Kerstin reported that some alumni attended the Back-to-School event, and others are helping with programming for a LinkedIn tutorial at the end of October. The Alumni Corps strongly wants to find ways to stay connected with our students. There will be an alumni event on November 5 in Washington, DC. It will include a reception and a panel addressing targeted questions pertaining to this year’s Forum topic. Jepson faculty are welcome to attend.

Forum 2016-17:

Al Goethals explained that he and Julian Hayter are tentatively calling the 2016-17 Forum “Reconstruction and the Arc of Racial (In)Justice” and anticipate inviting three speakers in the fall and two speakers in the spring. A list of possible speakers for both the Forum and the associated Colloquium was discussed, and the top five were identified: Eric Foner, Ira Berlin, Annette Gordon-Reed, Michelle Alexander, and Isabel Wilkerson. Sandra will ask Shannon Best to contact those individuals to determine their interest and ability to come in 2016-17.

Crystal Hoyt asked that a speaker who could address contemporary implications of racial history be included at the end of the Forum series. Jess Flanigan suggested speakers who could speak to housing segregation.

Sandra reminded everyone that co-chairs are still needed for the 2017-18 Forum series, and encouraged those who have not worked on a Forum to consider possible topics.

25th Anniversary:

Sandra explained that the Jepson School will be 25 years old in 2017, and asked if the faculty wants to celebrate that milestone. Comments:
• Bezio – Should do something
• Kaufman – Have a large academic event rather than a social event as an opportunity to get President Crutcher involved and showcase the University through JSLS
• Hayter & Bezio – Tie in to the new Society for the Study of Leadership
• Flanigan – Tie the anniversary to a named scholarly lecture(s) with a prestigious leadership studies scholar to headline
• Bezio – Tie to the Forum which could be a theme on various fields of leadership studies

Other Business:

Due to outstanding response, registration is closed for the Maria Konnikova lecture, the first Forum event on September 22.

Family Weekend is October 2-4; there will be a 9:30 am event on Saturday, but no faculty lecture.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 pm.

Susan W. Taylor
September 21, 2015