

**School of Journalism and Mass Communications
Faculty Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2019**

Faculty and staff in attendance: Julie Adam, Hyejin Bang, Genelle Belmas, Gerri Berendzen, Peter Bobkowski, Ann Brill, John Broholm, Yvonne Chen, Jerry Crawford, Teri Finneman, Pat Gaston, Muger Geana, David Guth, Angie Hendershot, Penny Hodge, Carol Holstead, Himee Kamatuka, Rob Karwath, Heather Lawrenz, Tien Lee, Frances Lyons, Chuck Marsh, Lisa McLendon, Kerry Navinsky, Jennifer Paasch, Scott Reinardy, Steve Rottinghaus, Marlys Shulda, Eric Thomas, Matt Tidwell, Gayle Vannicola, Doug Ward and Mike Williams.

Updates (Brill) – Building, Budget, Survey Monkey contract

Construction will begin the Monday after KU graduation. The campus preservation committee must meet to discuss the remodel before building begins. No classes will be held in Stauffer-Flint during the summer or fall semesters. Construction is planned to be done by November 2019 and all classes will be held in other campus buildings until spring semester 2020.

Because of budget realignment student credit hour production is very important. Opportunities for growth are a Homeland Security Crisis Communications class to be offered at KU Edwards Campus. There will be a cut to the base budget next year but no fiscal cut for FY20. Two faculty retirements are planned for the end of the current semester.

Currently Survey Monkey account verifications only allow for three users at a time so we have been advised to use another program with two-step verification.

Faculty votes required (Reinardy, Lyons) – Scott Reinardy and Frances Lyons presented three motions for faculty vote:

1. Motion to approve grievance policy within the jurisdiction of the School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Rationale: *The School of Journalism and Mass Communications grievance procedure applies to faculty members and students when the grievance does not fall under the jurisdiction of another body as outlined in the code and regulations above. Grade appeal and student academic misconduct procedures are outlined in their respective policies.*

Lisa McLendon motioned for approval and Muger Geana seconded the motion. After discussion a vote was called with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. Motion carried.

2. Motion to approve School of Journalism and Mass Communications policy on faculty credentials and equivalency.

Rationale: *In March 2016 the Higher Learning Commission revised the guidelines for reviewing minimal faculty qualifications at accredited institutions. HLC's faculty requirements seek to ensure that faculty members are experts in the area of instruction. The HLC requires that "instructors (excluding for this requirement teaching assistants enrolled in a graduate program and supervised by faculty) possess an academic degree relevant to what they are teaching and at least one level above the level at which they teach, except in programs for terminal degrees or when equivalent experience is established. In terminal degree programs, faculty members possess the same level of degree." Additionally, when instructors are hired to teach on equivalent experience, the institution defines the minimum level of experience and evaluation process.*

Genelle Belmas motioned for approval and Peter Bobkowski seconded the motion. After discussion a vote was called with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. Motion carried.

3. Motion to approve American Sign Language accepted for language requirement.

Rationale: *“ASL is claimed to be the third most commonly used language in the US! The most common misconception about ASL is that it is a signed version of English. ASL is not English at all. ASL is a distinct language with its own syntax and grammar and has been developed over hundreds of years by deaf people as a means of communication. It is also just as capable as English or any other language of communicating abstract or complex ideas.”* <https://www.startasl.com/american-sign-language>

David Guth motioned for approval and John Broholm seconded the motion. After discussion the motion was called with all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions. Motion carried and will be in effect summer 2019 semester.

Historical Context requirement, elective for Journalism minor (Lyons, Reinardy)

Frances stated more feedback is needed for requiring this elective. Guth suggested expanding student numbers by allowing more students to enroll. Brill assigned the discussion to the curriculum committee.

Faculty evaluations pilot (Marsh, Lee)

All agreed evaluations should be civil conversations and languages for both evaluations and promotion and tenure should be the same. Out of 16 suggestions, five were implemented including logical, flexible and compassionate. Teaching and service evaluations should be respectful of faculty time. Faculty should not be told how to fulfill their responsibilities only that they do.

Trip to southwestern Kansas (Kamatuka, Lawrenz)

Himee Kamatuka, recruitment coordinator, and Heather Lawrenz, digital media specialist, visited four high schools and 445 students in southwest Kansas. They provided plenty of one on one dialogue.

Announcements

The food supplement suite will be announced in classes and added to syllabi.

The Kansas Press Association and Kent Cornish, president and executive director, will hold Broadcast Day at the Kansas Memorial Union on April 2nd.