

**THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
McKenna Hall Auditorium**

ATTENDANCE

Deans: *Dean:* John McGreevy; *Associate Deans:* JoAnn DellaNeva, Peter Holland, Margaret Meserve, Mark Schurr; *Assistant Deans:* Ava Preacher, Nicholas Russo, Joseph Stanfiel, Vicki Toumayan

Chairpersons and Directors: Tom Anderson, Matthew Ashley, Jim Collins, Bill Evans, Richard Gray, Patrick Griffin, Jesse Lander, Elizabeth Mazurek, Peter McQuillan, Rory McVeigh, Peter Smith, Yongping Zhu

Elected Faculty: Gary Anderson, David Betson, Alissa Blad, Catherine Bolten, Jon Coleman, Ann-Marie Conrado, Noreen Deane-Moran, Denise Della Rossa, Richard Donnelly, Kevin Dreyer, Sabrina Ferri, Timothy Fuerst, Robert Goulding, Daniel Graff, Tom Gresik, Tara MacLeod, Laura Miller, Vittorio Montemaggi, Catherine Perry, Diane Pinderhughes, Sebastiano Rosato, Jason Ruiz, Jim Sullivan, David Watson, Hannelore Weber, Shauna Williams, Lira Yoon

Undergraduate Student Representative: Brittany Sanok

Graduate Student Representative: Dasha Safonova

Regularly Invited Guests, Observers, and Resource People: Maria Di Pasquale (Dean's Office), Margot Fassler (Program in Sacred Music), Kate Garry (Dean's Office), Essaka Joshua (College Seminar Program), Mary Celeste Kearney (Gender Studies), Geraldine Meehan (Global Gateways at NDI), Matt Zyniewicz (Dean's Office)

Excused: William Donahue, Ashley Murphy, Darcia Narvaez, Abby Palko, Thomas Tweed, Michelle Wirth

Dean John McGreevy convened the meeting at 3:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the April 20, 2015 College Council meeting were approved.

COLLEGE BUSINESS

Parking

J. McGreevy briefly reminded the Council that last spring they had a robust discussion of the newly-implemented parking policy. That discussion ended with a series of votes and a request to invite someone to a future Council meeting to discuss the policy. J. McGreevy invited Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves to this Council meeting, and he was present to offer a few comments about the new University-wide parking policy and to entertain questions.

J. Affleck-Graves recognized that parking is a concern for faculty, staff and students, as it impacts our lives on a day-to-day basis. One of the goals of the University and directive from the Board of Trustees is to keep the University a pedestrian campus, meaning there should not be major roads running through campus, nor many cars. The campus is also home to many students, to faculty, staff, rectors, and members of the Congregation of Holy Cross. He also mentioned that he read through the minutes of the Council's last meeting so that he could ascertain the issues that the Council would like to raise regarding the new parking policy. He indicated that many of the issues noted in the minutes were very valid, and addressed some of them.

He noted that there were three major issues that he could ascertain in the minutes: restricted parking, accessible parking, and short-term parking. Restricted parking: There have always been some people who have had restricted parking on campus, such as rectors and senior administrators. That parking was always free, as it was for everybody else. When the administration looked at potential sources of funding during the Advancing Our Vision [AOV] endeavor, the administration determined that those with restricted parking privileges had to pay a fee for the privilege every year. About 80% of those with such parking privileges paid the fee and about 20% chose not to pay the fee. Subsequent to that determination, J. Affleck-Graves reported that he received many inquiries from various faculty and staff about whether they could also have the opportunity to have certain parking privileges by paying an annual fee, because of the hours that they worked on campus did not allow them to have access to more convenient parking spaces, and because parking around campus was on a first-come-first-served basis. Some people have positions that allow them to come to campus early in the mornings with access to better parking spaces, while others arrive to campus late, and so do not have such parking spaces available to them. As a result, the administration attempted on a trial basis to see how much demand there would be for the availability of certain parking spaces for an annual fee. That was the most recent program that had been implemented. J. Affleck-Graves recognizes now how important parking is in peoples' lives. He had not considered how frustrating it can be for faculty and staff to walk past convenient but empty reserved parking spaces. The new reserved parking program allows for 3% of the parking spaces on campus to be reserved for a total of 160 parking spaces on campus, with the average parking lot having about 30 reserved spaces. The administration had 250-300 or so applications for the 160 parking spaces. J. Affleck-Graves stated that he is not overly committed to the parking program, and the program was not developed for the University to increase revenue. It was not done for cost purposes. The program was developed as a service to faculty and staff who had parking-prohibitive working hours. He noted that he would be comfortable to freeze the program, but will honor the University's two-year commitment to the 160 faculty and staff who paid a fee for a parking space. He will also propose to University President John Jenkins, C.S.C., that a campus committee think about a long-term campus solution for parking.

Accessible spaces. The administration considers accessible spaces to be a very serious concern, and they are doing their best to create as many accessible spaces as possible. The University excessively exceeds

the legal requirement for the number of accessible spaces required on campus. The number of accessible spaces on campus, however, is not the most pressing concern, but rather where such spaces are located throughout campus. J. Affleck-Graves recently asked Associate Vice President and University Architect Doug Marsh to travel throughout campus to see if there could be additional accessible parking spaces closer to the center of campus. The issue remains, however, that it depends on when faculty and staff arrive on campus if they can park in the limited number of accessible parking spaces across campus.

Short-term parking. J. Affleck-Graves noted that he had not recalled that there used to be short-term parking near the stadium and that those spaces were removed for construction purposes. He has asked his team who works on parking issues to address the lack of short-term parking across campus. So far the team has identified an area to add 5 short-term parking spaces on the drive between O'Shaughnessy Hall and Decio Hall. The team identified another area for 5 short-term parking spaces on the southeast side of Galvin. Further, in about 18 months or so and once construction is completed for McCourtney Hall, the University will be able to create 16 additional short-term parking spaces near the OIT building.

Bulla parking lot. J. Affleck-Graves recognizes that the parking lot on Bulla sometimes fills up. So, to free up about 100 parking spaces in the lot, his office asked contractors not to park there but in the lot near Ave Maria Press. His office is working on creating additional parking spaces for the Bulla parking lot.

A parking garage remains a possibility in the longer term, but such parking can be very expensive, about \$2,000 a year per parking space. If the University puts up a 1,000-space parking garage, it would cost the University about \$1M to \$1.5 M per year. The Board of Trustees are open to a garage, but there would have to be fees associated with parking in any future garage.

Rory McVeigh (Chairperson, Department of Sociology) wondered if there is additional land that the University could use for parking. J. Affleck-Graves responded that there is land available but it depends on how far faculty and staff are willing to park. He also observed that a surface parking lot costs about \$3,500 per space to create. An above-ground parking structure costs about \$20,000 per parking space to create, while it takes about \$40,000 per parking space to create an underground parking garage with enormous operating costs. An advisory council member had suggested to J. Affleck-Graves to use the \$20M that may be spent on building such parking structures and run a really efficient shuttle service. Further, administration would like to encourage faculty and staff to carpool with special spaces for such vehicles. Furthermore, there are parking spaces reserved for energy efficient cars and charging stations for electric vehicles.

Margot Fassler (Director, Program of Sacred Music) wondered if some of the Hesburgh Library parking spaces reserved for handicap drivers could be devoted to vehicles with young children or pregnant women. J. Affleck-Graves agreed that such spaces should be created.

Associate Dean Peter Holland wondered if faculty could share the same reserved parking space. J. Affleck-Graves is open to the idea, but he has some reluctance because such arrangements could encourage faculty to stay home on some days and drive to campus on other days.

Kevin Dreyer (Department of Film, Television, and Theatre) observed that there are particular parking needs for performance venues and public spaces that are not currently being addressed. When the Snite Museum relocates to the south end of campus, it will only exacerbate the parking issues. Have there been some thoughts about how to address parking matters when considering such venues for people to

see University plays or movies or music events? J. Affleck-Graves mentioned that at some prominent venues across the country, people walk blocks at times to get to the performances, and the lot near DeBartolo Performing Arts Center does not seem like an excessively long walk. He stated that a closer parking is not possible. The University, however, could provide a more robust drop-off and pick-up area. He invited faculty to share their ideas about how to make such performance venues more accessible in terms of parking matters.

Ann-Marie Conrado (Department of Art, Art History, and Design) noted that winter will exacerbate the parking issues, with snow piles in the parking lots and summer/fall walkers and bikers driving to work and needing parking spaces. Faculty often live in clusters around South Bend and other areas. A. Conrado asked if there could be shuttles to particular neighborhoods in order to reduce the number of cars on campus. J. Affleck-Graves indicated he is keen to explore such options, suggesting that perhaps a shuttle service from University Park Mall might be convenient for those living in or near the Granger area.

Matt Ashley (Chairperson, Department of Theology) recalled that when he rode the Chicago “L” during the winter, there were shelters with heaters that the shuttle riders could turn on while waiting for the shuttle service. M. Ashley wondered if the Notre Dame shelters have such heaters. J. Affleck-Graves could not recall if the Notre Dame shelters are heated, but if not, he agrees that heaters would be a good addition.

J. McGreevy and the Council thanked J. Affleck-Graves for attending the session.

College Council Subcommittees

J. McGreevy invited Associate Dean Margaret Meserve to the front of the auditorium to help introduce two agenda items, College Council subcommittees and space. M. Meserve stated that lists of the subcommittee membership were available before the meeting. She recalled that the subcommittee structure was established on an experimental basis during the academic year 2014-15 in order to provide more representation of those who are elected to the Council. Two changes to the subcommittee structure were made in view of how the subcommittees operated last year. First, the agenda committee was eliminated; the Council can simply offer to the dean or associate dean suggestions for agenda items. Second, the subcommittee memberships were reduced because scheduling meetings became an issue. M. Meserve considered who had cycled out of the Council, who went on leave, etc. in order to reduce the number of faculty on the subcommittees. She also considered representation of the different disciplines and ranks on the subcommittees. Some people who served on one subcommittee last year may find themselves either serving on a different committee this year or not serving at all. Some new members are serving on subcommittees so that they can quickly learn more about the Council’s business. M. Meserve suggested that those members who are not on a subcommittee and wish to be on one to let her know.

Space

M. Meserve also introduced a draft of a letter that she will soon send to the entire College. The letter reviews space planning efforts across the College and notes that a space planning committee will soon be formed to help advise the Dean’s Office particularly about the offices in O’Shaughnessy and Decio, as departments prepare to transition to new offices in new buildings. How ought the departments and faculty best utilize the vacated spaces? What sort of principles ought to inform and motivate the ways that the College uses spaces, particularly for the humanities departments?

M. Meserve mentioned that the letter indicates a number of potential principles that the College might wish to endorse, such as whether to have administrative staff and faculty under the same roof, or to find ways to bring graduate students closer to faculty, or to group like departments together. M. Meserve would like to address some of the more philosophical issues with regard to space before looking at the blue prints and figuring out where to place departments and faculty. She especially welcomed nominations of faculty who could serve on the space planning committee, notably nominations of humanities faculty who will be impacted the most with the results of the planning committee.

Sociology Minor

J. McGreevy excused himself from the meeting because he was double-booked with another meeting. He invited Associate Dean Mark Schurr to the front of the room to address that final agenda item for the afternoon. He also invited Rory McVeigh and Ann Power (Department of Sociology) to the front to introduce the agenda item, a proposal for a Sociology minor. M. Schurr invited R. McVeigh to introduce the proposal. R. McVeigh thanked A. Power for putting together the proposal. He also recalled that in the past the Sociology major required only eight courses, so there was not a need for a Sociology minor. And the Department was attracting a high number of majors. About five years ago the Department decided to raise the academic standards for the major and increase the major requirements to 31 credit hours. As a result, the Department has noticed an increase in the academic strengths of the students in the major and their increased academic engagement with the discipline. Further, when the economy crashed in 2008, the Department witnessed a steep decline in the number of Sociology majors. Having recently engaged in a self-study and external review, the Department concluded that the decline in the number of majors was not entirely because of the recession but because of the time of making the major more rigorous. The Department lost a large number of second majors, many from the business school, and not as many first majors. As the major required 31 credit hours, many of the prospective students could not fit a second major into their schedules. The external reviewers agreed that the Department should offer a minor because many Sociology courses are interdisciplinary. A. Power stated that there are a number of students who become juniors or seniors while having taken a number of Sociology courses but do not have time to complete the requirements for the Sociology major. These students would often ask if it is possible to minor in Sociology. Those who would pursue a minor in the discipline would also have the benefit of the Department's advising with regard to the discipline. The minor would not require any additional resources from the Department, College or University.

William Evans (Chairperson, Department of Economics) asked if there is potential for the establishment of a minor to reduce drastically the number of second majors in Sociology. R. McVeigh agreed that such a reduction was a concern, but mentioned that the establishment of a minor would be a net gain in the number of students for the Department. He observed that a reduction in the number of second majors would be a concern; there is also the possibility that students who pursue a minor might realize that they could pursue a major in Sociology.

K. Dreyer recalled that years ago the Council would only consider proposals for minors that were cross disciplinary. He asked if that philosophy had changed. Associate Dean JoAnn DellaNeva stated that the departments normally dictate their own curricula, but she thought that this proposal should be reviewed by the full Council.

Assistant Dean Nick Russo asked if the Department considered creating a supplementary major rather than a minor. A. Power mentioned that the Department did consider a supplementary major but thought that the Department would lose more first majors if the Department offered a supplementary major instead of a minor. The Department thought the minor would be more practical.

M. Schurr called for a vote to approve the proposal. The proposal passes in the College Council with 42 votes for the proposal, 0 against, and 1 abstention.

ADJOURNMENT

M. Schurr adjourned the plenary meeting at 4:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew C. Zyniewicz
Dean's Executive Administrator