

**THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
Wednesday, February 10, 2016
McKenna Hall Auditorium**

ATTENDANCE

Deans: *Dean:* John McGreevy; *Associate Deans:* Jim Collins, JoAnn DellaNeva; *Assistant Deans:* Ava Preacher, Nicholas Russo, Joseph Stanfiel, Vicki Toumayan

Chairpersons and Directors: Thomas Anderson, Matthew Ashley, Catherine Bolten, Bill Evans, Richard Gray, Patrick Griffin, Peter McQuillan, Rory McVeigh, Dianne Pinderhughes, Gretchen Reydams-Schils, Peter Smith, Tom Tweed, Yongping Zhu

Elected Faculty: Catherine Bolten, Catherine Cangany, Jon Coleman, Jessica Collett, Ann-Marie Conrado, Denise Della Rossa, Richard Donnelly, Sabrina Ferri, Robert Goulding, Daniel Graff, Tom Gresik, Sarah Mustillo, Darcia Narvaez, Abby Palko, Catherine Perry, Jason Ruiz, James Sullivan, Carmen Tellez, Juan Vitulli, David Watson, Hannelore Weber, Lira Yoon

Undergraduate Student Representative: Ashley Murphy, Brittany Sanok

Graduate Student Representative: Dasha Safonova

Regularly Invited Guests, Observers, and Resource People: Mary Celeste Kearney (Gender Studies), Kate Garry (Dean's Office), Peter Jeffrey (Program of Sacred Music), Matt Zyniewicz (Dean's Office)

Guests: David Gasperetti (Department of German and Russian Languages and Literatures), Valerie Sayers (Department of English), Jeff Speaks (Department of Philosophy)

Excused: Gary Anderson, David Betson, Alessia Blad, Richard Cross, William Donahue, Kevin Dreyer, Margot Fassler, Timothy Fuerst, Vittorio Montemaggi

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the November 11, 2015 College Council meeting were approved.

COLLEGE BUSINESS

Major and Minor in Philosophy, Science, and Mathematics

Dean John McGreevy asked Jeff Speaks (Department of Philosophy) to talk about the proposal for a Major and Minor in Philosophy, Science, and Mathematics. J. Speaks provided an overview of the proposal, including talking about the audience/students for the major. He mentioned that it would be difficult to know how many students will pursue the major; there will be a substantial number but not an overwhelming number of students. The major will not require additional resources.

Catherine Bolten (Department of Anthropology) asked if the major will be a first, stand-alone major, a supplementary major, or a second major. J. Speaks responded that the major will be a track in the Philosophy Department and so can be a first, stand-alone major.

Assistant Dean Joseph Stanfiel asserted that the proposed major and minor will be excellent offerings for a small but not inconsequential number of students, and will be good for senior theses. J. Speaks agreed, because students will be able to write excellent theses on more pointed topics.

Assistant Dean Nicholas Russo noted that on page 2 of proposal for the major there is a list of 3 math and science courses. He asked if these courses would be in addition to math and science core courses or would they double count? J. Speaks replied that the courses could probably double count. J. Speaks will investigate the matter.

Brittany Sanok (Undergraduate Student Representative) asked how closely the authors of the proposal considered the title of the major/minor. The title, "Philosophy, Science and Mathematics," sounds like a minor? Perhaps consider the "Philosophy of Science and Mathematics." J. Speaks indicated that the authors thought about the title and the title suggested seemed too narrow, because the authors wanted students to engage first-order science and mathematics as well as the philosophy of science and mathematics.

Associate Dean JoAnn DellaNeva mentioned that the Undergraduate Studies Committee approved these proposals and reiterated that the proposed major and minor will be very appealing for a small number of students but the most interesting students.

Sarah Mustillo (Department of Sociology) observed that the major and minor are intended to be interdisciplinary, but it appears that students can take 7 of 8 courses in philosophy. Does that defeat the purpose if students are not required to take courses outside of philosophy? J. Speaks noted that some courses in philosophy are very much like mathematics and sometimes are even indistinguishable from mathematics. Logic courses, for example, are somewhat like math etc. so the major and minor are interdisciplinary in that way.

J. McGreevy asked for a vote to approve the major and minor in Philosophy, Science, and Mathematics.

Vote: 46 for, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

Design Proposal for a Minor

Richard Gray (Chairperson, Department of Art, Art History and Design) introduced the proposal for a minor in design: Collaborative Innovation. The five-course minor is primarily intended for people outside the Department of Art, Art History and Design. Studio artists and art historians, however, would be able to pursue the minor. Further, the Department has a benefactor who has created an endowed chair for Innovation. The Department is also working with members in engineering, science and business to develop ideas and to collaborate across the University.

Ann-Marie Conrado (Department of Art, Art History and Design) added that there is excitement about design thinking at Notre Dame's peer institutions, for example, at Stanford, MIT, and Michigan there are graduate programs in design thinking that are intended to push forward value in business. Carnegie Mellon and Notre Dame are the only 2 institutions in the top-twenty institutions that have robust majors in industrial design. There currently appears to be much excitement by students in the introductory design course. The minor would appeal to anybody interested making, buying, using products.

J. DellaNova mentioned that the Undergraduate Studies Committee was quite impressed with the proposal.

Darcia Narvaez (Department of Psychology) mentioned that she saw a film about a design approach in a course at a high school that brought together many different experts in engineering, art, design and other disciplines. This course appeared to have a huge space and many different pieces of equipment for the collaborators to work together. D. Narvaez asked if the Department of Art, Art History, and Design will need more space for such a minor. R. Gray mentioned that the Department has a reasonably good space for the minor at this point, and the Department anticipates the minor will begin in a somewhat small way. R. Gray also pointed out that the collaborative capstone project for the minor has sponsors (e.g., the business, Johnson and Johnson) who bring a problem to a senior-level design course with about 25 students. Of the 25 students, only about 5 will be design students. The Department recruits students from other colleges or schools at Notre Dame to fill out the remaining students in the course. A. Conrado added that the capstone course is really about the mechanics of collaboration and is cross-listed with Anthropology, and even qualifies as an engineering technical elective.

D. Narvaez noted that it is not clear how the Department will collaborate other departments across campus? What can other departments do to link to the Department? A. Conrado observed that perhaps once the minor is established, courses in other departments might be able to qualify to count towards the minor. Perhaps a cognitive course on decision making, for example. R. Gray indicated that the Department already has existing courses for the minor, but

would like new partnerships to generate new courses. He mentioned that Department faculty are very open to such interdepartmental collaboration.

Carmen Tellez (Department of Music and Program of Sacred Music) wondered if the minor would be open to students in the arts who want to provide an artistic point of view or is the minor more strictly for industrial applications. For example, some students in music are interested in collaboration. A. Conrado observed that design thinking can apply to anything. Typically the faculty few design thinking as problem solving methodology. A. Conrado stated that the minor would be open to students in the arts, but would have to provide certain types of problems for such students to pursue.

J. McGreevy called for a vote to approve the proposal for a minor in Collaborative Innovation.

Vote: 45 in favor, Against 1, 0 Abstentions.

ADJOURNMENT

J. McGreevy adjourned the plenary meeting at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew C. Zyniewicz
Dean's Executive Administrator