THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE COLLEGE COUNCIL
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS
Wednesday, September 12, 2018
McKenna Hall Auditorium

ATTENDANCE

Deans: Dean: Sarah Mustillo; Associate Deans: James Brockmole, Peter Holland, Essaka Joshua, Margaret Meserve; Assistant Deans: Maureen Dawson, Collin Meissner, Nicholas Russo, Joseph Stanfiel, Vicki Toumayan

Chairpersons and Directors: Pamela Butler, Jon Coleman, Jim Collins, Margot Fassler, Agustin Fuentes, Brian Krostenko, Jesse Lander, Tim Matovina, Diarmuid O’Giollan, Alison Rice, Valerie Sayers, Thomas Stapleford, Yongping Zhu


Graduate Representatives: Alex Brodersen, Jillian Snyder

Undergraduate Representatives: Christopher Enabnit

Regularly Invited Guests, Observers, and Resource People: Patrick Claus (University Writing Program), Warren von Eschenbach (Provost Office), Kate Garry (Office of the Dean), Robert Goulding (John J. Reilly Center), Matthew Lahey (Office of General Counsel), Brian O’Conchubhair (Center for the Study of Languages and Cultures), Kathleen Opel (Office of International Studies), Hugh Page (Provost’s Office), Anré Venter (Department of Psychology), David Younger (Notre Dame International), Matthew Zyniewicz (Office of the Dean)

Excused: David Campbell, Richard Gray, Nathan Rose, Susan Sheridan Dean

Sarah Mustillo convened the meeting at 3:30 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

S. Mustillo asked for any amendments to the April 25, 2018 College Council minutes. The Council approved the minutes without corrections.
COLLEGE BUSINESS

Title IX

S. Mustillo invited Matt Lahey (Office of General Counsel) to present on Title IX. M. Lahey explained that Title IX has been thought of mostly in sports matters. What does it mean for us? M. Lahey stated that the University surveyed the students in a campus-wide climate survey, and he displayed some of the results in a PowerPoint presentation. M. Lahey observed that consent in relationships is an important part of the meaning of Title IX. The statute addresses dating violence or domestic violence, stalking, as well as hostile environments including in social media and cyber harassment. One third of the students said it is likely they would reach out to faculty if they had concerns in these areas, which is why M. Lahey wanted to present to the College Council. In the end, faculty and staff are mandatory reporters under Title IX, which is a federal requirement. All employees of Notre Dame have a duty to report.

Honesty Committee

S. Mustillo invited Hugh Page (Office of the Provost) to talk about the University’s Honesty Committee and the recent revisions to the Undergraduate Academic Code of Honor. The committee changed the format of the honor code to make it less daunting, making the code more concise. He went over the goals of the revisions and the revisions themselves. After a few questions, H. Page shared the link where faculty, staff and students can reference the newly revised Honor Code (https://honorcode.nd.edu).

NDI’s fewer-than-four-weeks courses

S. Mustillo invited Associate Dean Essaka Joshua, David Younger (Notre Dame International) and Anré Venter (Department of Psychology) to introduce the topic. E. Joshua explained that the College must get clarity on the necessary duration of courses with less than a semester of course time. E. Joshua read the motion from the February 14, 2011 College Council minutes. What counts as an immersion program and what would be too short of a course? What do we mean by 4 weeks? Or should there be pre- or post-course work? The February 14, 2011 motion did not specify credits, but it is a three-credit course. NDI asked how they should consider some of the less-than-a-semester-long courses?

For three week courses there must be about 50 hours of contact time per week if it is a three-credit course; 37 contact hours a week for a four-week, three-credit course. E. Joshua introduced David Younger. He researched what peer institutions do. By in large there is no set standard across the field, including Georgetown, Princeton, Harvard, and Dartmouth. Georgetown was all over the place with their requirements for their shorter courses. Stanford is the one that has some standards for their threeweek, three-credit courses. A majority of Notre Dame’s shorter courses are three-week, three credit courses. Gateway programs have also offered such shorter courses. Most of the courses absolutely meet the requirement of 50 hours a week.

A. Venter described his shorter course. The students and the instructor meet two weeks (90 minutes every day) before the course that takes place in South Africa. The course takes place over 21 days in South Africa and meets in class every day, with field trips every day as well. The content of the course is about apartheid in South Africa. Some students have said that it was the most difficult course they had
to take because they were immersed in constant reflection. He thinks the immersion side of it is extremely valuable.

After much discussion, Associate Dean Margaret Meserve made a motion to empower E. Joshua to study the dynamics and requirements of shorter courses and to report back to the Council. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**Purposes of the College Council meetings**

S. Mustillo introduced the topic: How to make the plenary meetings most helpful for the Council. The Council engaged in a discussion about several topics: subcommittees and their effectiveness, the size and constitution of the Council in terms of fair representation across the College, types of matters that the Council ought to consider, and the Council’s relationship with other councils/committees across campus.

S. Mustillo delayed any decisions about the above matters and suggested that the Council take up the discussion again in the new year.

**ADJOURNMENT**

S. Mustillo adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew C. Zyniewicz
Dean’s Executive Administrator