Dedman College Faculty Meeting

May 9, 2018

3:00 p.m.

McCord Auditorium

Minutes

Presentation of 2018 Dedman Outstanding Senior (Neely Myers – remarks verbatim):

I am so delighted to present this award to Eki Olumese. She has the distinction of being a wonderful person as well as an exceptional athlete and scholar. I personally have known her for two years both in the classroom and in my medical anthropology research lab. Based on these experiences, I can say that Eki is absolutely in the top 1% of students I have ever taught in the past seven years. She is committed to excellence, bright, kind, creative and well-loved by her classmates and she has a great sense of humor. As a scholar, Eki has been engaged in formal research projects since she was 15 years old, including working on topics as varied as osteoarthritis, embryonic zebrafish, cancer, epigenetics, and anthropological research on various mental health care faced by racial and ethnic minorities in Dallas. Not surprisingly, given her diversity of interests, she is a triple major in Bio-chemistry, French and Health and Society. Her overall gpa is a 3.828. She has also served as a volunteer coordinator for Alpha Epsilon Delta and is a volunteer speaking partner in English for the second language courses at SMU. Her lists of awards is long, but here are three that demonstrate how brightly she shines. Eki was a Rhodes scholarship finalist this year, one of maybe 100 students in the United States who won this honor. She received the president’s scholar’s award, the highest academic merit award presented here at SMU. And as a member of the NCAA division 1 SMU rowing team, Eki won the Orlach award in May 2017 to recognize her teams’ admiration for her leadership and comradery. Her medical school essay was about the importance of what she learned out at White Rock Lake at roughly 5:30 in the morning. Where she learned instead of cursing to repeat to herself these words: “stay focused, stay connected.” She believes this mantra will help her get through medical school so that she can become an excellent and empathic doctor. I believe she will be both of these things. Perhaps it is not a surprise that Eki has big plans. She has been accepted into a one year master’s of philosophy program at Cambridge, in medicine, heath and society. Indeed we also named her the outstanding senior in Health and Society this year at SMU. Eki has also been accepted to Vanderbilt medical school, where she has been given a full scholarship at her top choice school. Because she values the importance of understanding social factors for being an excellent physician, Eki decided to defer her start at Vanderbilt in order to pursue the master’s in philosophy at Cambridge this fall. Vanderbilt is willing to wait for this young woman and they will not be disappointed. Eki we are so proud of you and I know that there are many faculty (not just me) who have supported you over the years, including Paul Ludden, Carolyn Smith-Morris, Dayna Oscherwitz, Paola Buckley, Alex Lippert and John Wise. All of us are just so proud of you - Congratulations on receiving this award and we are wishing you all the best.

Presentation of 2018 Dedman Outstanding Professor (Thomas DiPiero – remarks verbatim):

The Dedman Family Distinguished Professor must be a full professor who has been on the faculty at SMU for at least five years. The successful nominee must have a distinguished record of publication that has garnered national and international recognition, and she or he must have a distinguished record of teaching. Finally, it is expected that the winner of this award have a significant record of service to the SMU community and to the professional community beyond the university. Very pleased to announce that this year’s winner is Johan Elverskog.

From his nominee letter: I think he is easily one of the most accomplished members of the Dedman College faculty, by any measure. Johan has published multiple scholarly books and articles in his areas of expertise (central and eastern Asia, with particular interests in Islam and the environment), and won fellowships from the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford (underwritten by a Mellon Foundation grant) and, closer to home, from SMU’s Ford Research Fellowship Program. He is also a widely sought after speaker on the international conference and lecture circuit, indication of his prominent international reputation. Johan’s teaching is equally impressive, characterized by a wide range of offerings that reflect his extensive intellectual interests, and he clearly connects with his students – witness his 2010 selection as an Altshuler University Distinguished Professor. And Johan is no shirker; despite the rather frenetic pace of his research and travel schedule, he reserves ample time for service, including seven years as chair of the religious studies department (2012-16; 2017-20). Simply put, Johan is one of Dedman’s very best, and thus it would seem fitting to honor him with one of the College’s plum awards. These are some of the range of publications on Johan’s CV: *The Buddha’s Footprint: An Environmental History of Buddhist Asia* (under review) 2010 *Buddhism and Islam on the Silk Road* (U Penn P) numerous editions; 2007 *The Pearl Rosary: Mongol Historiography in Early 19th Century Ordos; 2007 Our Great Qing: The Mongols, Buddhism and the State in Late Imperial China; Dr. Elverskog has numerous edited volumes, dozens of journal articles and book chapters, including one that really fascinates me: “The Gutenberg Fallacy and the History of Printing among the Mongols.” And, of course, “Whatever Happened to Queen Jönggen?” He serves on numerous editorial board and editing posts, teaches UG courses in Asian Religions, Buddhism, the World of Islam Culture and Modernity, and grad courses in Approaches to Asian Religions and Tibetan History. Dr. Elverskog has delivered dozens of conference papers and public lectures, been awarded a*

*URC grant, numerous external fellowships, done tons of university service, including chairing the department of Religious Studies Additionally his teaching is always way, way off the charts.*

Presentation of 2018 Caren Prothro Service Award (Thomas DiPiero – remarks verbatim):

This is a fairly new award, instituted a couple of years ago. The Caren Prothro service award honors a full-time member of the Dedman College faculty for a record of exceptional service to SMU and the larger Dallas community, as exemplified by Caren Prothro. There is no limit to nominations, but they must be received by Tuesday, March 15. This year’s awardee is Professor Mark Chancey.

From his nomination letter: Richard Cogley likes to joke that when Mark Chancey came to SMU, he (Cogley) knew that Mark would become “Mr. SMU;” namely, a committed and devoted member of the broader SMU community, and it was clear that Rick was right. Over the last eighteen years Mark has worked tirelessly for not only the university, but also the guild and the broader community as well. This has involved serving on more SMU committees than anyone wants to contemplate, lecturing widely in the community on everything from “The DaVinci Code” to Islamophobia, as well as working extensively on the question of religion in public schools. Yet, rather than simply running through a litany of all his service activities through the years, we’re just going to summarize what he did last year; which, although simply a snapshot, amply demonstrates why Mark Chancey is deserving of this award. In 2018 Professor Chancey served on nine SMU committees (Faculty Representative to Committee on Development and External Affairs, Board of Trustees; Member, Task Force on Scholarly Research and Creative Impact, Office of the Provost; Member, Advisory Committee for Promotion to Full Professor; Member, Jewish Studies Program Steering Committee; Member, Levine Judaica Lecture Committee; Faculty Host of Honorary Degree Recipient [hosted honorary degree recipient and planned symposium]; Member, Lay Advisory Committee for M.Div. student, Perkins School of Theology; Member, Steering Committee, Graduate Program in Religious Studies; Internal reviewer of faculty applications for National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Stipend, Office of the Provost). At the same time he also served on four other external academic boards (Editorial Board, Religion & Education; General Editor, Lesson Plans for Teaching about the Bible in High School Social Studies and English Language Arts Courses, Society of Biblical Literature; Chair, Educational Resources Review Committee, Society of Biblical Literature; Member, Advisory Board for National Social Studies Religious Literacy Standards, Newseum, Institute Religious Freedom Center, National Council for the Social Studies, American Academy of Religion), as well two further boards serving the public (Board of Directors, Texas Freedom Network; Advisory Board, Religious Freedom Center of the Newseum Institute). In addition to these activities he also gave three lectures at local churches (“Christian Perspectives on the Ten Commandments,” “Understanding Anti-Semitism,” and “Understanding Islamophobia”) and moderated the panel discussion “Faith, Religion and Diversity of Thought: An Interfaith Dialogue Exploring Diversity of Thought & Practice” at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, in Dallas, which was streamed live to seven other U.S. locations. And let’s not forget he won a Guggenheim. In short, as Rick Cogley predicted, Professor Chancey is a truly committed member of SMU and the broader community as well.

Approval of meeting agenda: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the meeting agenda.

Approval of minutes of September 5, 2017 faculty meeting: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2017 faculty meeting minutes.

Gambrell Motion: A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the Gambrell Motion. The faculty of Dedman College approve the roster of candidates for the degrees of Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts, Master of Science, and Doctor of Philosophy for December 2017 and May 2018 graduates of Dedman College.

Perrine Prize (Thomas Knock – remarks verbatim): Good afternoon. Since 2001 the Perrine Prize has been awarded annually at SMU to a member of the undergraduate faculty who embodies the ideals of Phi Beta Kappa—“the life of the mind,” and humane learning and teaching—in the tradition of excellence personified by the late Professor of English, Laurence Perrine. It is awarded without regard to rotation among disciplines. It is a real pleasure to present the prize to this year’s recipient, and I cannot imagine a more worthy candidate than the Dedman Family Distinguished Professor, Kathleen Wellman. To begin, Kathleen is an extraordinarily dedicated teacher. She inspires the best in her students not only because of her talent and intellectual gifts; she also cares deeply about them personally. I don’t know of anyone who gives more of themselves than Kathleen does in providing students with thoughtful, constructive (and extensive) criticism on their writing, both substantive and stylistic in nature. It follows that her classes on the Enlightenment and early modern France always receive rave reviews. A student in Kathleen’s junior seminar recently wrote, “As a result of this course, I have a new and profound respect for all historians and the work they do.” A fourth year student enrolled in another of her courses remarked, “If I was not a senior, this class would have made me consider a major in history.” No wonder that Kathleen is an Altshuler Distinguished Teaching Professor and that, in a department full of excellent teachers, her course evaluations, according to our chair Andy Graybill, “are consistently the very best in the department.” And that does not take account of her admirable work for over a decade in overseeing and teaching in the SMU-in-Paris program; her new summer course in Paris and Rome with Melissa Dowling, as well as another pioneering collaboration, with Rick Cogley, in the Ways of Knowing program. Kathleen is also a superb and prolific scholar. The winner of both NEH and Mellon fellowships and twice the winner of the Godbey Lecture Series Author’s Award, she is the author of two important books on the history of science and medicine in early modern France, and of a third vivid volume that, as one authority states, “achieves that rare mix of the scholarly and the accessible while making a compelling case for [seven] queens and mistresses as crucial facets of the political and artistic development of Renaissance France.” You may like to know that she has a 400-page draft of her fourth book (her first in the realm of public policy), “Hijacking History: How the Christian Right Teaches World History and Why It Matters.” Through it all, Kathleen continues to be truly a model citizen of the SMU community A Cary Maguire Center for Ethics Public Scholar and the holder of the President’s Associates Outstanding Faculty Award, she has chaired the Women and Gender Studies program and served on countless job search committees and various university and college committees. In my view, her six-year chair-ship of the Clements Department of History is one of the highlights of her exemplary service to SMU. I say this for two reasons. First, during her tenure as chair, Dedman College went through five deans while six members of our department either passed away or retired. In such circumstances, in marshaling key hires at both the junior and senior level, Kathleen oversaw the reconstruction of our department with a wonderful group of scholars. Second, and just as important, was her mentoring of colleagues. One of them has written: “She made the time to provide invaluable advice for new faculty . . . and provided us with specific feedback on research proposals, manuscripts and teaching as well as more general guidance on how to thrive in the academy. I feel extremely fortunate to have found such a mentor when I was a new assistant professor.” Another colleague has told me: “Kathleen has paved the way for so many of us junior faculty to succeed. She shepherded us through the stages, and I always appreciated that she would swing by to check in—a chance to solicit advice [informally] on matters that were bettered by feedback from such a font of wisdom about the university and the professoriate. She remains an inspiration for teaching, scholarship, and service.” Well indeed she does! Please join me in congratulating Kathleen on a brilliant career.

Devlin Prize (Diana Grumbles): The Discernment & Discourse program is pleased to announce Marta Krogh as the recipient of the 2018-2019 Laura Kesselman Devlin instructorship. Marta was nominated by her students and her peers, and her award recognizes commitment in the classroom and out to the Hilltop Scholars Program and to the University as a whole.

Recognition of Retiring Faculty:

Francisco Morán (Dayna Oscherwitz – remarks verbatim)

My colleague, Francisco Morán, Professor of Spanish in Dedman College, joined the SMU faculty in 2003 after earning his Ph.D. at Georgetown University. His major research focus is on the late nineteenth-century Latin American poetic movement known as *modernismo*, but he has published on a wide array of topics about Latin America, especially Spanish Caribbean literature, culture, and intellectual history. He is the author of acclaimed books on two important Cuban intellectuals, Julián del Casal and José Martí; has published 30 peer-reviewed articles; and is the editor of numerous anthologies and critical editions. Professor Morán has given invited lectures at NYU, UCLA, and UC Berkeley, as well as in Norway, Spain, and Argentina. Since 1998, he has served as editor of the online literary journal, *La Habana Elegante*. A dedicated educator, he has taught countless courses on Latin American literature and culture and has mentored numerous undergraduate and graduate students during his years at SMU. Professor Morán is also a published poet and winner of the Luis Cernuda Prize for poetry, among others. He retires as Professor *Emeritus* of Spanish.

The following retirement citations were read into the record:

Alan S. Brown, professor of psychology in Dedman College, joined the SMU faculty in 1974 after earning his B.A. at College of Wooster and his Ph.D. at Northwestern University. His administrative service for the Psychology Department involved 6 years as Associate Chair (1985-1992) followed by 9 years as Chair (1992-1995; 1997-2003). He also served as Chair of the Sociology Department from 2010-2014. From 2009-2010 he was the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in Dedman College. Professor Brown’s major research focus is on the various idiosyncrasies of memory, such as the déjà vu experience, tip of the tongue phenomenon and cryptomnesia (unconscious plagiarism). He has published more than 80 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, and given over 80 presentations at professional conferences. Brown is also the author or co-author of 7 books, and retires as Professor *Emeritus* of Psychology.

Louis L. Jacobs, Professor of Earth Sciences in Dedman College, joined the faculty in 1983. He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. at the University of Arizona. He served as Director of the Shuler Museum of Paleontology from 1987-2000, and President of ISEM at SMU from 2000-present. Professor Jacobs received the prestigious Laurence Perrine Phi Beta Kappa Award in 2015 and was named SMU’s Scholar/Teacher of the Year in 2006. He has conducted extensive field research in Pakistan, Mexico, Kenya, Cameroon, Malawi, Yemen, Israel, Mozambique, Mongolia, Antarctica, Texas and other parts of the United States, and most recently Angola. Since 2005 he has been co-leader of *Projecto PaleoAngola*, undertaken cooperatively with Agostinho Neto University, Luanda, in order to investigate the environmental and climatic effects of the opening of the South Atlantic Ocean on the evolution of life in the sea and on land. *Projecto Paleo Angola* is currently producing an exhibit scheduled to open in 2018 at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History. Dr. Jacobs has published over 130 peer-reviewed articles and three books including a book for children on dinosaurs. Nine fossil species have been named after him. He retires as Professor Emeritus of Earth Sciences.

Wayne Woodward, Professor of Statistical Science in Dedman College, joined the SMU faculty in 1974, after receiving his Ph.D. from Texas Tech. His entire academic career, apart from 2 years spent at UT Southwestern, was here at SMU. He is the longest serving chair of the Department of Statistical Science to date, having served two stints for a total of sixteen years. The Department’s Ph.D. program in Biostatistics came to fruition under his watch, as was the department’s professional Master’s program. On the research side, Wayne, along with his longtime collaborator Henry (Buddy) Gray, helped establish SMU as a national leader in time series analysis, a topic on which he supervised 21 Ph.D. students. He has received SMU’s highest recognitions for teaching and service, including the Altshuler Teaching and the Tunks Distinguished Citizen Awards, and the United Methodist Church Scholar/Teacher of the Year. He is a Fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), an elected member of the International Statistical Institute, and recipient of ASA’s Don Owen Award. He retires as Professor Emeritus of Statistical Science.

Approval of Dedman Committee Slates; There being no nominations from the floor, the Motions for the slates for Advisory Committee for Promotion to the Rank of Professor, Faculty Council, Undergraduate and Graduate council, Council on General Education, Educational Programs Committee, and Faculty Senate candidate in Divisions I, II and III were made, seconded, and approved. Electronic ballots for these committees will go out at the beginning of next week. Dean DiPiero thanked all of the members who served on the committees this past year and re-emphasized how important these committees are to the college. Dean DiPiero also thanked Dennis Foster for all of his work as secretary of the faculty council this year.

Dedman College Academic Affairs/Research Update ( Renee McDonald): Dr. McDonald spoke to the faculty about Dedman College edge which gives students career readiness in applying for jobs. Employers are looking for liberal arts students, however, if the students have one or more of these eight skills: Computer Programming, Data Analysis and Management, General Business, Graphic Design, IT Networking and Support, Marketing, Sales and Social Media, students’ chances of employment improve. The college is also partnering with the Hegi Career Center to develop more internship opportunities for our students. Dean DiPiero reiterated that this job data is important to parents who are worried about their student’s job chances when graduating with a liberal arts degree.

As a result of an OIT student survey done last year, Dedman College faculty are encouraged to use Canvas (to at least load syllabi), so students can load important dates to their calendars. Approximately, 30% of Dedman College faculty currently use Canvas. Michael Robertson in OIT is glad to help train faculty and there is also a 24/7 hour help in Canvas.

Faculty and Staff Giving (Fred Olness): Dr. Olness thanked all faculty who participated in the faculty/staff campaign and reminded faculty there is still time to participate before the celebration next week and before the end of the fiscal year. Faculty and staff giving in the college is well over 50%. See Dr. Olness after the meeting for more information.

Final Exams/Grade Posting; Please follow the following university policy regarding final exams/grade posting:

*“Final course examinations shall be given in all courses where they are appropriate, must be administered as specified in the official examination schedule and shall not be administered during the last week of classes.  Exceptions to the examination schedule may be made only upon written recommendation of the chair of the department sponsoring the course and concurrence of the dean of that school, who will allow exceptions only in consultation with the Office of the Provost*” (p. 45, SMU Online Undergraduate Catalog). Accommodation of individual student circumstances is at the discretion of the instructor, but should be rare.

Students should be provided with blue books in classes requiring their use.  Students should not be allowed to use blue books purchased in advance from the bookstore.

Grades should be posted 48 hours after the end of the of the assigned final examination period.

Dedman College Update and Q&A:

Dean DiPiero gave the following update to the faculty.

Dr. Caroline Brettell is stepping down as director of the DCII, a post she has served since 2012. Dr. Brettell has done an amazing job as the director, and everything the DCII is today is due to her leadership. The remarkable and game changing things Dr. Brettell has set in motion for the institute are as follows: Allman Family Lecture; Annual fellows seminar; Graduate fellowship program; Hamilton undergraduate research scholars; Robert Mayer undergraduate research fellows; a program on Law and statistics and on-going Ongoing clusters such as the one on substance and addiction, which is the longest running cluster in the institute. Dean DiPiero expressed the College’s thanks to Dr. Brettell for her work as the director. Following in Dr. Brettell’s footsteps is Dr. Lisa Siraganian (associate professor in English) who will be the new Director in the fall. Dr. Siraganian is the only professor to have held simultaneously an Andrew W. Mellon New Directions Fellowship and an ACLS Fellowship, as well as pursing a JD in Dedman Law. She is a huge interdisciplinary thinker and already thinking about ways she can build on Dr. Brettell’s work. The Dean thanked Dr. Siraganian for taking on the directorship.

The Dean DiPiero reiterated that Pony Power monies are very important because these are monies we intend to spend within a year or so. When donors give to current use funds, they know that the money is spent right away and give to programs that are meaningful to them. Dedman’s pony power goal was $3 million and we received $3.2 million, however the SMU fund for Dedman College (the Dean’s discretionary fund), is still short approximately $40,000 (the goal was $250,000 and we received $210,000). This fund is important because it lets the Dean respond to opportunities that come up right away or respond to items that are necessary for the college. Carl Sewell also issued a challenge to the college, that for every new Dedman College scholar donor, every dollar that we raised he would match up to $400,000. The challenge was met and we have 25 new Dedman College scholars entering in fall 2018, with average ACT scores of 34 and average SAT’s just shy of 1500.

Our executive board members continue to help the college not only in monetary donations, but hosting alumni and recruiting events both here and in the Southern California and Miami areas and New York. These events are so important not only for the Dedman “Cradle to Grave” initiative, but alums enjoy finding out about what the college is doing and talking to current students. Our current students and faculty have become one of best our best recruiting tools at these events because high school students can talk to them and get information about the college in order to deposit.

The College will start a partnership with the Bush institute in the area of economics growth and public policy, headed by Cullum Clark, a recent economics Ph.D. student (mentored by Klaus Desmet). The institute will promote American economic leadership, global trade, immigration, economic vitality of cities. Additionally, there will be joint programing with the department of Economics, support of SMU economics research, support of PhD students working in economic growth as well as a think tank for academics and policy professionals. This initiative is scheduled to start June 1st.

The Texas Mexico Center had its first international conference in Mexico City this spring and researchers presented on migration and trade, two areas which are vitally important to the center. Approximately 130 people attended. This same conference will be held in Dallas in spring 2019, on the same topics – the people who presented their original research will present their conclusions at that time.

New programs coming on line in the fall: New Accelerated Pathways: BA/BS in Economics + MA in Applied Economics. New minors include: Environmental Anthropology; Cognitive Science; Neuroscience and Minor in International Film Studies. The Tower scholars program continues to be a sucessful recruting mechanism for students who want political studies.

Our funding initiatives still remain the same: scholarships for undergraduates, graduate student support, faculty support in all sorts of domains and more endowed chairs, Embrey Human Rights program and support for the Dean’s Research Council (which provides seed money for research support).

The Dean opened the floor for questions:

Question regarding graduate funding does it funnel through Dean Quick’s office or through the college? The college is aggressively focusing on raising money for graduate students. It was noted that some department are experiencing morale issues because of the discrepancies in stipends, and some departments are taking fewer students to keep the stipend amounts up. Academic excellence committee recommended that the office of research and graduate school be divided into two areas and faculty senate is behind this initiative.

Question was posed about getting some staff back due to Oe2C cuts. If so, Dedman College would have to fund the money ourselves.

There being no other questions the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Meeting Adjourn