

Dedman College Faculty Meeting Minutes  
August 27, 2012

Dean Tsutsui called the meeting to order.

**Election of Secretary:** Steve Sverdlik was elected by acclamation.

**Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made to approve the meeting agenda, seconded and passed unanimously.

**Approval of May 1, 2012 Minutes:** Motion was made to approve the minutes as written, seconded and passed unanimously.

**Dedman College Faculty and Staff Scholar Announcement:** (David Doyle and Caroline Brettell) Four years ago, the Dedman Scholars program was started with three students. This year, fourteen students were enrolled, bringing the total number of scholars on campus to thirty-four, with average SAT scores of 1440, high school GPA's of 3.88; eight women and six men, nine of whom are from Texas and the other five are from states such as Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, South Carolina and Virginia. Majors and minors of the Dedman Scholars include Anthropology, Biology, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Economics, English with Creative Writing, Environmental Sciences, History, Human Rights, International Studies, Math, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, Religious Studies, Russian, Spanish, World Languages and Literature, with sixteen scholars on the pre-med track and five applying to law school. Several scholars are double majors with other schools on campus and thirteen scholars are or have been involved in undergraduate research. This May marks the graduation of two Dedman Scholars. Caroline Brettell introduced George Colligan, the Dedman College Faculty and Staff Scholar, majoring in history and theatre. This scholar was funded through monies raised from the faculty and staff of Dedman College. Dr. Brettell asked that the faculty and staff consider donating monies for another scholar, at a cost of \$10.00 per month from 200 Dedman College constituents.

**Research Administration:** Alicia Brossette spoke briefly about the recent financial conflict of interest email sent to all faculty. SMU Policy 7.7 requires that prior to submitting a proposal, principal investigators/responsible parties must disclose any Significant Financial Interests that could affect the project. Also, all researchers who submit proposals through ORA are required to complete the FCOI training through NIH (a training link was provided in the email and is also on the ORA website), prior to submitting their proposals. Should faculty members have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Office of Research Administration.

**In Memoriam:** Deceased faculty members Glenn Linden and Joseph Hadar were remembered by department chairs, Kathleen Wellman and Nathan Balke.

**Introduction of new faculty members in Dedman College:** The Dean called for recognition of new faculty. The following were introduced by their colleagues with details of their educational experiences, achievements, and scholarly research:

Karen Lupo, Professor and Chair in Anthropology  
Terry Strecker, Lecturer in Biology  
Alex Lippert, Assistant Professor in Chemistry  
Heather DeShon, Associate Professor in Earth Sciences  
James Lake, Assistant Professor in Economics  
Danila Serra, Assistant Professor in Economics

Caroline Brettell  
Steven Vik  
Elfi Kraka  
Bob Gregory  
Nathan Balke  
Nathan Balke

Greg Brownderville, Assistant Professor in English	Nina Schwartz
Ken Andrien, Edmund J. and Louise Kahn Chair in History	Kathleen Wellman
Jeffrey Engel, Associate Professor and Director of Presidential Projects	Kathleen Wellman
Neil Foley, Robert H. and Nancy Dedman Professor in History	Kathleen Wellman
Andrea Meltzer, Assistant Professor in Psychology	George Holden
Michael Chmielewski, Assistant Professor in Psychology	George Holden
Steve Robertson, Senior Lecturer in Statistics	Wayne Woodward
Cornelius Potgieter, Assistant Professor in Statistics	Wayne Woodward
Thierry Tirado, Visiting Lecturer in French	Denise DuPont
Rachel Ney, Lecturer in French	Denise DuPont
Janet Dodd, Visiting Lecturer in French	Denise DuPont
Lucia Garmendia Cano, Lecturer in Spanish	Denise DuPont
Donna Binkowski, Professor of Practice, Spanish	Denise DuPont
Ana Firan, Visiting Assistant Professor, Physics	Fred Olness
Kate Engel, Associate Professor in Religious Studies	William Tsutsui

**Recognition of newly tenured and promoted faculty members:** The College congratulates the following faculty members who were promoted to tenure as Associate Professor and/or full professor this past academic year:

Lisa Siraganian, Associate Professor – English  
 Philippe Chuard, Associate Professor – Philosophy  
 Jill DeTemple, Associate Professor – Religious Studies  
 Steven Lindquist, Associate Professor – Religious Studies  
 Lorelei Simpson Rowe, Associate Professor – Psychology  
 Sheri Kunovich, Associate Professor – Sociology  
 Anne Lincoln, Associate Professor – Sociology  
 Sheng Xu, Associate Professor – Math  
 Yunkai Zhou, Associate Professor – Math

Bill Barnard, Professor – Religious Studies  
 Steve Sverdlik, Professor – Philosophy  
 Pia Vogel, Professor – Biology  
 Jingbo Ye, Professor – Physics

**Student Evaluations Update:** (Peter Moore) Associate Dean Moore announced that a committee consisting of Alan Brown, Crista DeLuzio and Monte McGee has been formed to revise questions on Dedman College teaching evaluations. A beginning set of questions has been drafted and sent to Joey Sprague from the University of Kansas who was here last spring. Once the questions have been finalized, they will be submitted to the undergraduate council for approval and to Dedman College faculty for final approval. Should you have any questions or feedback, please contact Associate Dean Peter Moore.

Additionally, a seminar entitled “The Road to Full” will be led by a number of Dedman College full professors sometime in the fall semester. This seminar will be geared to tenured Associate Professors in the College.

**Dedman College Office of Research** (Renee McDonald): In 2011-2012, Dedman College submitted \$39.7 million in grant proposals and was awarded \$10.5 million. Several faculty members received a number of prestigious awards, i.e., NSF Early Career Award (Jodi Cooley-

Sekula), Sam Taylor Fellowships (Brigitte Kovacevich – Anthropology; John Buynak – Chemistry and Darryl Dickson-Carr – English); This past year, a needs assessment survey was sent to Dedman College faculty asking what the largest hurdles to a successful research agenda was. Faculty responded that course relief in addition to adequate time to perform research were amongst their biggest obstacles. Policies on course relief for research intensive faculty have been drafted and implemented. Dr. McDonald also indicated that the applications for the Dean's Research Council have been modified to include a separate application for faculty members in the humanities and an email will go out with applications in the near term. Dr. McDonald reported that a research brochure for industry partnerships is being drafted in order to generate relationships with industry partners in the Dallas area. Dr. Caroline Brettell will be hosting a presentation by an NSF program director in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences as part of new Interdisciplinary Center initiative. Finally, Dr. McDonald introduced Dr. Kathleen Hugley Cook, Director of the Office of National Fellowships and Awards. Dr. Hugley-Cook's office assists faculty members with applying for such fellowships as the Guggenheim, AAUP and Fullbright. Faculty members can contact Dr. Hugley-Cook on campus at 83325.

**University Curriculum Update** (Dennis Cordell): The University Curriculum ("UC") is underway with 1430 first year students taking classes as of this date. Dr. Cordell thanked the University Advising Center and Dedman College Records office for all of their hard work this summer in advising students at AARO, as well as Vicki Hill for her presentations on new curriculum to parents and incoming students. As placement levels have been raised for students this year, many more students are taking introductory courses than have been in past years, particularly in Discernment and Discourse 1313. Dr. Cordell also thanked Nina Schwartz, Diana Grumbles and Susie Duarte for their assistance in juggling all of these new courses in the English department. The Department of World Languages also has experienced a change in that the UC requires that all students improve their language skills by the equivalent of one year from where the student was when the student first arrives on campus. Last year a pilot program was introduced to determine which levels students would enter, how many classes would be needed, in addition to how many sections of those classes would be needed. Dr. Cordell indicated that not all the needs of the first-year students in this language requirement would be accommodated this fall, therefore, more adjustments to the language requirement would be necessary. Dr. Cordell thanked the World Languages Department for their help in this endeavor. At present, the UC is working on building the second year of the curriculum for students who entered this fall as first year students, as well as adding transfer students next fall to the UC. The Council on General Education continues to meet to approve courses for the UC this fall. Dr. Cordell then spoke about student learning outcomes and assessments for each of the pillars. All courses approved for the UC will use the UC student learning outcomes. If the course is only contained in the UC, faculty members should use UCSO's. If the course is contained in the old GEC curriculum as well as the UC, faculty members should use the UCSO's, even if there are no UC students in the course. In terms of courses that have been submitted for UC but not yet approved or courses that will never be submitted to the UC Council, faculty members should use the GEC's SLO's. Faculty members should also use the GEC SLO's for cultural formations and ITS courses under the GEC curriculum, unless the cultural formations course has been approved for a UC offering under a departmental listing. Status of course approvals can be found at <http://smu.edu/gened/ucproposals.asp>. In terms of assessments, there will be no pre-test or post-test moving forward, as those were eliminated next spring, however, it will bear no weight in assessing the UC. Assessments of courses will take place near the end of the semester as the objective is to determine how much students have learned and to what degree students have obtained the learning outcomes that have been assigned to the course along with the student's letter grade. The assessment committee

(made up of faculty across the University) has developed a set of rubrics for each of the UC components. Faculty should use the rubrics in assessing the course to determine what is the appropriate piece of evidence from the course best assesses the learning outcome, i.e., embedded question in exam, research paper, or some other exercise that carries weight in the course. The student learning outcome should be something that is already being graded and incorporated into the course, not something new. These rubrics should be disseminated in the near term and can be revised as necessary. The most important items in the UC assessment are UC what did students know at the end of the course and how well did they attain the learning outcomes that are assigned to the course. Although Ways of Knowing classes were slated to begin in the spring 2013 semester, it is anticipated that most students will be taking these classes next fall. This is due to the new placement guidelines and language requirements. The UC Council is still taking proposals for these courses and grants are still available. Grants for new Ways of Knowing classes are \$2,000 for each participating faculty member with a maximum of \$6,000 total and for existing Cultural Formations courses that are being shaped for the UC, \$1,500 per each participating faculty member will be awarded again with a maximum of \$6,000. Dr. Cordell indicated that funds for adjunct or overload assistance for these courses will come from the central administration and not the College. Dr. Cordell again thanked all of the faculty who have submitted proposals and worked on the UC.

**State of College Address:** (Dean Tsutsui). The Dean also thanked all of the faculty and staff who have helped to make the first stage of the UC a success, advising, adding additional courses and sections, as well as finding classrooms. At the start of his third year as Dean, several initiatives have come to fruition. The marketing plan for Dedman College has been completed and soon the College will see a new Dedman College home page, new pages throughout the website, as well as new departmental pages in order to have a more attractive and up to date web presence to better tell the Dedman College messages to our constituents (donors, prospective students, alums, etc.). Other parts of the marketing plan to roll out this fall include a new Dedman College online events calendar, a Dedman College presence on the Boulevard for three home football games, new student recruiting materials, a new format for the College newsletter, as well as new ways of reaching various audiences through postcards and social media. Dean Tsutsui thanked Jennifer Dickerson for her work on the marketing plan. The Dedman College Interdisciplinary Institute received a large endowment and operating funds from the Dedman family, but has also received gifts from the Embrey Foundation and one of our Executive Board members, Bob Mayer, in order to begin programming this fall. Two faculty seminars are being directed by Dedman faculty this fall; however, members of the seminars include faculty from almost all the schools on campus. Dr. Caroline Brettell is in the process of organizing a conference on the topic of privacy this fall and research clusters are also beginning this semester. Should you have any questions about the Interdisciplinary Institute, please contact Dr. Brettell. Tom Fomby has been named Director of the Richard B. Johnson Center for Economics. As director, Dr. Fomby will be working to raise the profile of the department locally and nationally, by staging public programming and collaborative research projects. Another of the Dean's initiatives is to make sure the UC continues on the same successful path that it started this summer. SMU's capital campaign is well on its way to its goal of \$750 million, however, it is anticipated that with the opening of the Bush Library and Institute, the focus will temporarily move away from the University. The University is currently in discussion as to what the campaign strategies and overall objections will be for SMU once the Bush Library is opened. There are discussions of a possible re-launch of the capital campaign to focus on achieving those objections in order to meet the 2015 goal of \$750 million+. Dedman College has had a great deal of success in fundraising by raising the first centennial professorship in history, as well as other initiatives. The Dean thanked Courtney Corwin for all her help in these endeavors. Several new initiatives on the horizon include the Tower Center Scholars (students engaged in

domestic and international policy concerns), building out the Interdisciplinary Institute, more endowed professorships, an endowed department, as well as a new building. It is anticipated that endowed professorships are a priority, as these have the most immediate academic impact on the quality of the institution, making this a focus for Dedman College during the remainder of the campaign. The College is also working with Jim Quick in asking for significant external monies for high performance computing, a promising initiative that should appeal to many donors, and a significant benefit to the College. Dedman College continues to focus on graduate programs. However, money will be extremely tight as the age of the 6% annual tuition increase is over. Dean Tsutsui indicated that Dedman College will need to help itself in graduate programs, as assistance from the University is unlikely in the near future. Dr. Renee McDonald has been tasked with collecting data on graduate programs. Dean Tsutsui urged the departments to assist her in providing this information so the College has the best material it possibly can. This data will serve two purposes, one is a long term investment in educating the Board of Trustees and the administration on the College's doctoral program situations as well as streamlining how the programs work, in order to better utilize graduate students more effectively as TA's and RA's, in order to effect some savings in adjunct/lecturer budget lines in order to use that money more effectively in the graduate program. Additionally, Peter Moore is working on a project to streamline healthcare costs for graduate students. The College is committed to providing health insurance for graduate students (unlike the School of Engineering), but the College needs a sustainable financial model over the long term. SMU's healthcare costs will rise over the next three years by approximately 25%: this is a combination of rising healthcare costs, the size of the SMU personnel pool, as well as the number of catastrophic illnesses that have been suffered by faculty and staff members. Another initiative are new degree programs with an emphasis on pre-professional and revenue generating programs. Examples of these are the applied masters in Statistics and the undergraduate minor in Law and Legal Reasoning which has a high student demand for courses. Faculty members are encouraged to continue to develop and submit new degree programs that will not only serve the needs of our students in providing the type of education that undergraduates are desiring as well as being revenue generating. Such proposals include at present a master's in analytics from Economics, a new pre-nursing track, new minor in medical humanities (developed out of the faculty seminar in the Interdisciplinary Institute), and a possible drug discovery track from the CD4. Additionally, there are a variety of projects being worked on in the Dean's office, one of which is the Dedman and Dallas Committee chaired by Jill DeTemple. The committee will look broadly at how Dedman College is engaged with the larger Dallas community from student classwork to outside lectures. Their report will showcase how Dedman College affects not only the city, but the region in which we live. If you are interested in joining this committee, please contact Dean Tsutsui or Dr. DeTemple. Other projects include overhauling teaching evaluations as mentioned by Peter Moore, reworking the adjunct teaching budget, finding mechanisms for joint appointments with the University, reports from committees formed last spring to guide the College on a number of issues, which include faculty publishing, teaching loads, departmental distinction programs and area studies programs. There are several university issues, one of the most complex and intensive will be the Bush Library and Institute opening. The Dean also discussed "blended learning and technology" in the classroom and that the Provost is very interested in faculty members who are actively using technology in innovative ways in the classroom. If you are interested in this topic, please contact the Dean. There will also be a new university branding and marketing plan disseminated sometime this year. The Dean indicated that the Interdisciplinary Institute and high performance computing are high priorities for the University. He reiterated that Dedman College needs to raise all departments to high quality rather than just showcasing a few centers of excellence. The ultimate goal for SMU should be to become a student focused research university as our niche in higher education, which will serve us well in an age where others flail around with the latest "bright idea." Dedman College's fundamental

place in the liberal arts and sciences is critical to SMU's reputation and its ultimate success. Several Board of Trustees members including Chair Caren Prothro have been great supporters of Dedman College, realizing the importance of faculty research, the prestigious hires the College has been able to achieve over the last few years, as well as the wonderful students we have been fortunate to admit and are educating.

The floor was then opened for questions. A question was posed as to the athletic deficit and its impact on the university and Dedman College, specifically operating budgets. Dean Tsutsui indicated that there has been no definitive impact as budgets have remained static over the past years, but it is hoped that the media agreements with the Big East will relieve some of the deficit and athletics should be able to stand on its own. It was mentioned that healthcare benefits should be used as a recruiting tool for top graduate students in addition to competitive stipends. Question was posed as what was the new slogan for SMU. The Dean indicated that he did not know at this time, however, the general idea was that the slogan would contain a version of "real world experience," a connection to the real world for parents. However, the Dean indicated one criticism voiced by all the deans was that the slogan was very tightly focused on undergraduate recruiting and not on research or graduate education.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.