

Minutes

CELS Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting- January 20, 2023

1. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am on Friday, January 20, 2023 via Webex web meeting platform, with Associate Dean Sartini presiding. Approximately 109 members of the CELS community were in attendance.
2. The Minutes from May 4th, 2022, CELS Faculty and Professional Staff Meeting were presented for approval and were approved without objection. Dr. Michael Rice approved with Dr. Maynard second.
3. **Announcements:**
 - a. Associate Dean Sartini introduced two new members of our College, Erik Anderson, Unit 3 Coordinator and Grietje Olmstead, CELS Fiscal Clerk. Linda Vetovis, Business Management Officer, Unit 1 received for her dedication of 35 years a certificate and pen set.
 - b. The University has been in the process of creating a new 10-year strategic plan and the plan was approved by Board of Trustees in November 2022. All are encouraged to attend the official launch of the URI's strategic plan at President Parlange's State of the University on February 1st, 2023.
 - c. The college plan will be referred to as implementation plans (not a strategic plan). A draft CELS Implementation plan was written by the CELS diversity, curriculum, research and extension coordinating committees with the graduate directors and is available for comment. The final draft of the CELS Implementation plan will align the college goals to the university strategic plan's key performance indicators (KPIs). Forums will be held in February and March to finalize the CELS Implementation plan.
4. **Reports of Standing Committees:**
 - a. *Diversity Committee:* The Diversity Committee report was given by Committee Member Aura Fajardo Grandidge. Highlights of her report is present in Appendix 1.
 - b. *Curriculum Committee:* The Curriculum Committee report was Dr. Becky Sartini, Chair Soni Pradhanang wasn't available. Highlights of her report is present in Appendix 2.
 - c. *Research Committee:* Chair Niall Howlett discussed the work of the committee on the CELS research strategic plan in Fall 2022.
 - d. *Extension and Outreach Committee:* Chair Kate Hardesty provided a committee report. Highlights are available in Appendix 3
 - e. *Space Committee:* Outgoing Chair Dawn Cardace announced that Brian Gerber will be the next chair of the committee. The committee is working to update the space request form.
 - f. *Commencement Committee:* Chair Coleen Suckling announced that John Taylor will be the new Chair of the committee. 438 CELS students attended the commencement ceremony in May 2022. The dates for the spring commencement ceremonies have been announced. The graduate school ceremony will be held on Friday May 19th, the Main Commencement ceremony on Saturday May 20th and the CELS college

ceremony on Sunday May 21. Faculty and staff volunteers are needed at this year's college ceremony.

- g. *Bylaws Committee*: Chair Katherine Petersson thanked Dr. Mike Rice for his service as executive secretary. Nominations for the new faculty secretary can be sent to Dr. Petersson.

New Business

- 1. Diversity Award. A motion was made (Rice) and seconded (Preisner) to include a Diversity Award to the awards from the college every spring (***Motion passed unanimously by voice vote***).

Old Business

- 1. Dr. Webb offered to assist anyone with questions about Hollings scholarship recommendation letters.

Adjournment: It was moved & seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.