

## CLA Senate Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Monday, March 9, 2026 | **Time:** 2:30–4:00 PM | **Location:** ISC-01-1400

**Attendees:** Kellee Barnard, Ayesha Iran, Jemadari Kamara, Chris Barcelos, Karen Okigbo, Trevor Memmott, Jean-Philippe Belleau, Kelly Colvin, John Tyson, Elizabeth Brown, Simone Harmath-de Lemos, Dana Miranda, Hye-Min Kim, Courtenay Sprague, Lilia Bartolome, Amy Sue Hazel, Nino Kibdaze

**Note Taker:** Keyana Parks

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### 1. Approval of February Minutes (5 min)

- Motion to approve as a block: **Passed** (All in favor, no abstentions/nays).

### 2. Dean's Report (30 min)

#### a. Updates from the Dean's Meeting

- Jenn Gregg organizing mentoring initiatives led by Isabel Gomez. Focus includes planning your semester/summer and manuscript reviews scheduled for early next semester.
- "The Deep Read," a one-credit, pass/fail CLA pilot course focused on Digitization/AI Focus organized by Eve Sorum. Discussions regarding compensation and course load are ongoing.
- One Page Project: A series of 4–5 workshops (two hours each) centered on a primary text within a specific field, also piloted by Eve Sorum.
- Pre-Law Advising: looking to make CLA the center of pre-law advising for Philosophy, Political Science, and Sociology; departments are encouraged to share relevant internships. Rafael **[Last Name?]**

#### b. Personnel and Budgetary Challenges

- Graduate Assistants (GAs): Following a budget cut, funds were reallocated. A meeting with the Provost is scheduled for tomorrow to clarify the reallocation process; updates will be shared.
- Hiring: The hiring deadline has been extended. Decisions will be based on:
  1. Ratio of Tenure-Track (TT) faculty to majors (including minors and grad students).
  2. Ratio of filled seats to TT faculty.
  3. Qualitative factors (pipeline and hiring history).

#### c. Questions

- Clarification that "The Deep Read" is a one-credit course not tied to a specific department; Correct
- Noted that an undergraduate law major previously existed in CPCS.

### 3. Moderator's Report (10 min)

#### a. SPACE Committee Update

- Defined as the group deciding space-related policies.
- Clarification: Len Benson serves on the UDining Committee (ad-hoc), not the SPACE Committee.
- Senator noted a lack of notice regarding private events which displaced search candidate lunches.
- No reply to our motion to add a faculty member to the committee

#### b. Assessment Requirements

- Chris Calienes Deza, [CM.CalienesDeza@umb.edu](mailto:CM.CalienesDeza@umb.edu), Institutional Research, Assessment & Planning, Director Assessment & Planning, addressed NECHE compliance, technically out of compliance, no set guidelines.
- Focus is on assessing programs, not faculty; departments have latitude in design based on their specific needs.
- Learning Objectives (should be able to be found on your webpage, potentially under curriculum; This is where departments can find their program learning outcomes: <https://www.umb.edu/academics/program-finder/>)
- Linked to the AQUAD process.
- 5–10 page report (frequency debated: semesterly vs. yearly).
  - Who reads it and to what end?
  - No formal structure in place
  - Senator: Yes, it is every semester. Seems it is possible to push back on this.
  - Senator: In our dept, did not hear 5-10 pages requirement
  - Senator: Some 15-20 people supposed to read this and provide feedback (non-punitive)
  - Senator: This is inequitable. Assessment has always been a part of our department and our AQUAD; should only be once a year and only 1-2 pages
  - Senator: unlikely to be highly enforced
  - Senator: Can it be folded into AQUAD? Yes.
  - Senator: Where are the learning outcomes? Under program finder on prospective student facing part of the website

#### c. Provost's Five-Year Review

- Faculty Council (FC) formed a steering committee; **Provost Burger** is up for review.
- FC was notified on Feb 24 to submit a single narrative by April 10.
  - Guidelines for reviewing admin missing from website
  - Senator: Who/how is the committee formed?; Amy Todd on FC is probably the contact, not sure who is soliciting members
  - Senator: How will things be summarized? Satisfaction Survey has one question specifically about the provost and it will be shared with the committee

#### d. Leadership Transitions

- Moderator Chris **Barcelos**'s term is ending. Seeking a tenured moderator and a mix of TT/T faculty for the SEC.
- Be thinking about if your dept needs to find a new person for the Senate if you need to rotate out

### 4. Course Approvals (10 min)

#### a. Substantial Changes:

- ANTH 353: Urban Anthropology (removes prerequisite and replaces with Sophomore Standing or Permission of Instructor)
- MUSIC 442: Conducting (changes error that list this 2 credit class as 3 credits)
- SOCIOL 366: White Collar Crime (reactivates course, revises title to “White Collar and Corporate Crime,” updates description, revises prerequisite)
  - Motion to approve as a block: **Passed** (All in favor, no abstentions/nays).

- Motion to approve changes: **Passed** (All in favor, no abstentions/nays).

## 5. New Business (20 min)

### a. Resolution on Public Records Request

- Discussion regarding a "doxed" faculty member and FOIA requests. The FSU is currently defending.
  - Bad faith requests targeting information regarding Israel/Palestine; student data (emails/theses) was shared.
  - Senator: How can we organize with MTA to ensure we are protected; current resolution language—how are we dealing with it? Could be stronger. Faculty were informed and faculty did not cooperate and they went ahead and accessed it
  - Senator: Second grievance meeting today, university looking toward a settlement, will offer faculty opportunity to review, some student info shared, how to also protect students?; what level of things are shared? Still need to keep pushing on this issue
  - Senator: The university did work to protect us; but FSU needs more power to protect us and what is shared
  - Senator: Language change suggestion: “all faculty, libs, involved in the request”
  - Senator: Can a legal rep come help to review? Delicate issue around how much info can be given; information requested in bad faith; need to devise a long term strategy
  - Senator: How were students implicated?: Emails with faculty, thesis, emails, anything to do with Isreal, Palestine, etc.
  - Senator: Better is legal FSU does the work. They do the work and we can check it
- Motion to adopt Resolution passed to advocate for stronger FSU/MTA protections and legal review of requests before disclosure. **Passed** (All in favor, no abstentions/nays).

### b. Leadership Changes in Africana Studies

- Ruling of 4-5 probably cause finding, cause moving forward in May
- Lobel Law Firm was hired for a special report; Process of disclosure; no information about investigating committee Prince Lobel Law Firm hired to do a special report on African Studies and Trotter—resulted in the exclusion of Africana faculty in the hiring process leading to the exclusion of Africana faculty from the hiring process.
- Dean refused a collective faculty meeting; an external chair was appointed without a departmental vote, bypassing bylaws.
- Another Prince Lobel confidential report again (for an undisclosed amount) on the dept while the dept is undergoing an AQUAD review with an external chair
- Professor Keith Jones, recipient of Chancellor's Outstanding award, reduced pay and heavier workload, then subsequently fired. Only NTT who has not received a renewal (gone as of May 26, 2026), possible retaliation; sign the petition
  - Questions
    - How many faculty in dept? 3 TT, 2 T, 1 Associate, 2 NTT, 2 other .25 NTTs
    - Setting precedents? Do we want this to float, an undisclosed report from an outside law firm used for personnel committees? Is that acceptable?

- Where is that older resolution? Passed a resolution about the search.
  - Does African have a DPC? Yes
- Draft Motion about confidential report
  - Can it be included in the MTA trial? May not be ready by May. Will be a part of the dynamic process
  - MCAD-mass commission against discrimination
    - Charges filed, one-week later Prince Lobel hired
  - Will share executive summary in Senate folder

## **6. Adjourn**