

Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts
Fall Faculty Meeting
Friday, October 19, 2018
Sheldon Museum of Art Auditorium
11:30 am

Updates from Dean O'Connor

O'Connor made opening remarks thanking the faculty for the outstanding achievements of our College over the past five years, including increasing the number of new freshman enrolled by over 50%. Overall undergraduate enrollment is up 28%. Our graduate student enrollment is down a little, but we are going to work on that with the help of acting Associate Dean Stan Kleppinger. O'Connor remarked that our College has the best retention rate at our University and this year we led the campus in enrollment growth. These numbers reflect the attention our faculty members give to their students and the achievements, exhibitions and publishing work of our faculty. Our retention rates require keeping our eyes on the scene of our students, checking in with them if they didn't pass a test or didn't take it, or when miss several classes. Several dedicated faculty members have come forward to request support for students facing challenges, and over the last 3 years our student emergency fund has offered financial assistance to 23 students, 21 of whom have since graduated.

The Carson Center is now under construction and their curriculum has been approved. The Carson Center will be hiring 5 new faculty members largely funded privately and with matching. The Carson Foundation is very pleased with our progress. The Chancellor has approved our proposal to raise \$70 million for a new music building.

O'Connor thanked all who participated in the MACAA (Mid-America College Art Association) conference; it was outstanding and so wonderful to see faculty from all over the College.

O'Connor also noted the tremendous momentum in our College, and all of our searches have been approved: Assistant/Associate Professor of Acting, new Director of the Carson School, the Collaborative Piano position, and the faculty position in the Bassoon studio.

O'Connor held a meeting with the new ad hoc committee for late career faculty, and is beginning to understand the complex issues that these faculty members are facing.

O'Connor would also like to form a committee of community members to continue to write letters to the editor and advocate for the importance of the arts both locally and nationally. The Hixson-Lied Advisory Board will also brainstorm talking points at their next meeting. O'Connor invited 3 faculty members to participate in the brainstorming session with the Advisory Board members on Friday, October 26. Faculty members Williams, Fuelberth, Barber and Borden accepted the invitation. O'Connor will be participating in a feedback session about the N150 strategic planning process and will keep Directors informed.

Approval of Minutes from April 6, 2018

Carolyn Barber made a motion to approve. Peter Lefferts seconded. Motion passed.

Fellowship Opportunities

Guests Laura Damuth, Director, National and International Fellowship, and Justina Clark, Director of Undergraduate Research from the Office of Undergraduate Education and Student Success presented the faculty with information on fellowship opportunities for students and encouraged faculty to get involved with the UCARE program and encourage students to participate. Faculty advisors can oversee up to 3 UCARE students. Students gain valuable skills and research experience or may be able to attend a regional or national conference. Our College currently has the fewest number of students participating in UCARE, and we would like to see more proposals of research projects from our students.

Students can apply for the UCARE program here:

<https://ucare.unl.edu/apply-ucare>

Information for faculty can be found here:

<https://ucare.unl.edu/about/faculty>

Faculty can post research opportunities for students on the UCARE job board:

<https://ucare.unl.edu/faculty-post-your-research-opportunities>

Introducing Business Office Staff

Wendy Duerfeldt Schutte formally introduced the Hixson-Lied Business Office staff, who are committed to providing exceptional service to faculty, staff and students. Duerfeldt Schutte thanked the Dean and Directors for their support of our new Business team's efforts to optimize service delivery, enhance growth opportunities, increase compliance of College and University policies and enhance support. The new Business Team participated together in a cybersecurity escape room activity. Business Team members are:

Allison (Alli) Casey will be taking on a new role Director of Recruitment after a search for the position failed.

Tammie Moore recently transferred to the College Business Office after previously serving as the Business Manager of the Glenn Korff School of Music. Moore will provide oversight and supervision within the Business Office, support Schools and Directors, align College resources and act as a contract specialist.

Renée O'Neal joined our team October 1 as Assistant Business Manager. She located to Nebraska last year with her husband and their children. O'Neal will offer guidance to faculty on administration of foundation funds, faculty and student grants, and project budgets and expenditures.

Amy Horvath joined our team as Financial Associate. Amy relocated to Lincoln and recently became a homeowner. She will process employee reimbursements, and will be an expert on the travel system.

The College will be recruiting for a new position of a Human Resources Generalist and a competitive search will take place. This position will provide administrative support to search committee chairs, support hiring functions, coordinate time entry and process all personnel forms.

Duerfeldt Schutte has become the College's Chief Operations Officer, responsible for overall compliance and efficiency of our operations, providing strategic financial support and reporting. She will act as a liaison between the College and functional offices, and her focus will shift from day-to-day operations to the Responsibility Centered Model for business operations that our University will implement and providing data analysis. Duerfeldt Schutte asked that faculty members contact the Business Office with any questions, concerns or challenges, as well as successes.

Bachelor of Arts in Music with option in Composition

Acting Associate Dean Stan Kleppinger reported on a proposal for a new degree option presented to the College Curriculum Committee, of a BA in Music with an option in Composition. After approval from the College Curriculum Committee, the proposal was presented to the faculty as a motion to approve.

Glenn Korff School of Music faculty member John Bailey commented that the Korff School of Music faculty unanimously approved without objection and are enthusiastic about the new option. Motion passed unanimously.

Assistant to the Dean Rachel Danay presented information on the upcoming United Way and Health and Human Services combined campaign. Faculty and staff will receive university-wide emails about participation in the campaign.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting – Friday, April 5, 2019, 3:30 pm in the Lied Center Commons