

## MINUTES

Psychology Department

Friday, October 15, 2021

1:00 pm, Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/99482396746>

Present: Professors Ahmed, Beals, Ben Hagai, Blackman (chair), Blandón-Gitlin, Cheng, Espinoza, Gerkens, Goetz, Lukaszewski, Marelich, Mearns, Morton, Navarick, Nguyen, Okado, Peissig, Preston, Roberts, Scher, Segal, Self, Sy, Trevitt, Zettel-Watson (vice-chair)  
Student Representatives: Ruiz

On Leave: Professors Panza, Stohs

Absent: Professors, Alcalá, Harrison, Mori

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Blackman, Chair.

### 1. Important Dates

<b>Thursday</b>	<b>November 11</b>	<b>Veterans Day, Campus closed</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>November 12</b>	<b>Final deadline to withdraw from courses</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>November 12</b>	<b>Next Faculty Meeting</b>
<b>Mon-Sun</b>	<b>November 22-28</b>	<b>Fall Recess, no classes</b>
<b>Thurs-Fri</b>	<b>November 25-26</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Recess, campus closed</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>December 10</b>	<b>Last day of instruction</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>January 3</b>	<b>Grades Due</b>

### 2. Announcements

- Dr. Blackman welcomed Dr. Laura Zettel-Watson as the new Vice-chair. Her main focus will be scheduling for full time and part time faculty.
- Should have received an invitation to canvas for an equitable pedagogy module. This was put together by the Provost and the President. If you complete the module by January you will receive a stipend of \$125.
- Next meeting in November we will vote on how we want to proceed for future meetings, either in person or continue via Zoom.

3. Minutes, M/S/P (Zettel-Watson, Trevitt) to approve the Minutes of September 17, 2021 as distributed.

### 4. Committees

**New Committee** – Dr. Roberts introduced the idea to form a small committee to explore the option for students to start having tracts. The tracts will offer

students more guidance to be prepared in their particular area of psychology. Dr. Navarick mentioned that a lot of details need to be addressed, and a discussion was had about the pros and cons of this feature. Dr. Peissig stated that in advising students have expressed that they want a more directed major. Dr. Zettel-Watson said that the Human Services concentrations have been using tracts for a long time and they have been successful in helping students apply for certificates and graduate schools. If they choose not to have a tract then they just get a degree in human services with no concentration mentioned. Dr. Trevitt emphasized that the tracts shouldn't increase the number of units a student needs to take but rather offer them a guide on which classes they should take and build the tracts around the classes they already have to take. Dr. Okado shared that her collaborators at USC have a way to create a chat box or virtual agent and she can help set that up so that when we have the list of suggested courses we can create a way for students to communicate with the virtual agent to get answers about their intended path and find it easier to get the necessary information. Dr. Roberts invited those that are interested in joining the committee to reach out to him but that he will make sure everyone has input.

## 5. **Old Business**

**DPC and DPRC.** – Last meeting it was decided due to the large workload to split DPC into two committees to better handle the reviews of the full time and part time faculty. Dr. Self suggested a solution on dividing up the workload and the previous motion will be modified. DPC will do the full-time reviews in the Fall, and in the Spring that alternates that were previously voted for will join the committee and the work will be divided amongst everyone so the DPC will not be expanded. Dr. Zettel-Watson let everyone know that it actually becomes two committees. The DPC committee will review full time faculty portfolios in the fall, and in the spring it will transition to the DPRC with all eight members joining to help lighten the workload.

**Undergraduate Advisor Elections** – In the best interest of the students it has been decided that instead of an election, which can turn into a popularity contest, instead the individuals will interview with the Goals and Directions Committee. Dr. Peissig brought up that the G&D committee was a little concerned that they were being a little overburdened with tasks and suggested that maybe the interview group could consist of one full time academic advisor, the Chair, and the Vice-Chair. Dr. Trevitt stated that there are two full time faculty advisors that are on overlapping terms and so the member that is in the first year of their term be the one participating in the interviews so it will alternate each year. Dr. Beals asked if the previous idea was voted on, and if not then there should be a motion. M/S/P (Peissig, Trevitt) the Chair, Vice-Chair, and one Faculty member that is on the advising team will choose among those that have applied for the position, and the position will be made available to Full-time and Part-time faculty (*approved, 1 abstention*).

**MA/MS Advisors** – Before proceeding with the topic Dr. Blackman stated that over the past five or six meetings she has been noticing tensions amongst the faculty and that it doesn't feel like a safe space for everyone to share their opinions, and she would like to see a return to a period where everyone errs on the side of politeness. Dr. Blackman announced that she has decided that in the best interest of the students and both programs to postpone the vote for the MA/MS advisor until after the PPR in the Spring. The reason for the delay is because it was brought up that before we have the vote we should get student feedback, and the PPR will be an objective process that will gather student feedback, and once we have that information we can make an informed decision about MA/MS advisors. The new advisors would start after the election in the Summer, and if there is a change they will work closely with the former advisor. Dr. Scher commented that colleagues in the past have brought up that the PPR process can be biased by choosing faculty or former students who are biased toward the program. Waiting to vote until after the PPR is a good idea but only if we can guarantee participants who have no connection to the program or are former students of the faculty. Dr. Blackman acknowledged that concern and said that the Dean is aware of this concern, and as far as she knows they are reaching out to participants who have no connection to the program. The hard part is finding qualified individuals who have the time to fly out here and evaluate the program. Dr. Sy replied that she likes the idea of delaying the vote because we are voting on coordinators for programs that many of the faculty are not intimately involved with. It would be helpful to know more about the programs to help inform the vote.

**6. New Business**

**Faculty Meetings** – At the next meeting we will vote on the format of future meetings, whether to continue them over Zoom or meet in person.

Meeting adjourned.