

## CAS MEETING MINUTES

Friday, December 6, 2019  
Dogwood Room  
3:30 p.m. to 4:26 p.m.

There were 44 Faculty Members Present.

Proxies were held by/for:

- Johanna Garvey/Betsy Bowen
- Katherine Schwab/Marice Rose
- Aaron Van Dyke/Matthew Kubasik

The meeting was called to order by CAS Faculty Chair, Scott Lacy at 3:30 p.m.

### 1. Announcements from the Chair

#### **CAS Faculty Meetings for Spring 2020**

- Feb 27 (Thursday)
- March 31\* (Tuesday). (The March 31<sup>st</sup> meeting may be rescheduled).
- April 24 (Friday)

#### **MLK Visions Awards...** Jan. 29pm @ 5pm (Wednesday)

*The Challenge of Change: Intersectional Justice and Democracy*

#### **Magis Core Opportunities...**

Jan 8 & 10: Soc Justice CDI (\$1000 incentive)

Jan 9: SJ, WAC/WID and ID Applications Clinic (\$250 incentive)

May 18 & 19: WAC/WID CDI (\$1000 incentive)

May 19 & 21: ID CDI (\$1000 incentive)

There will be an FDEC Day Event on Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 12 noon in the Kelley Center Presentation Room and Lobby. The theme is “against-the-grain engaged learning activities” and how you can engage your students in innovative ways.

### 2. Approval of the September 24, 2019 and October 24, 2019 meeting minutes

Steffen/Biardi. The minutes were passed with three abstentions

### 3. Election of an Interim Chair of the CAS Faculty for the Spring 2020 term

Prof. Amanda Harper-Leatherman was elected by acclamation.

#### **4. Research Minutes**

##### **Prof. Eric Mielants**

Prof. Mielants is a comparative historical sociologist from Belgium who compares large scale processes over time: the development (or most often lack thereof) of different political and economic regions as well as the migration and racialization of people from and to Europe and the United States. As a social theorist he is also fascinated by the origins and nature of globalization/capitalism. He is currently in the final stages of co editing a volume “Business Cycles and Social Movements in the Modern World System,” a collection of papers presented at a political economy conference co organized by him at Fairfield last year. The book is under contract with Routledge and should appear in print at the end of 2020. How global modernity came into existence and how it continues to function is also part of his ongoing research agenda as he is currently writing a text about the epistemological challenges of studying the entire world in all its complexity. He is increasingly convinced that the existence of different departments or schools/divisions is a problematic legacy of 19<sup>th</sup> century Eurocentrism and invites anyone interested in this topic to talk to him.

##### **Prof. Maggie Labinski**

I was hired to fill a position in Feminist Philosophy, and most of my work focuses on sex and sexuality. As of late, I have been especially interested in the affective potential of porn. I’m trying to determine if porn can be used to foster emotional intimacy, rather than just physical arousal.

One example that I’ve been looking at occurs in the subgenre known as bareback porn. This set of films tends to depict two men having explicitly unprotected sex. Part of the popularity of such media would appear to be because barebacking allows viewers to reclaim sexual intimacy. It makes a space for a decidedly emotional fantasy – one where all sex is ‘safe’ and our desires exist independently of our bodies. So understood, barebacking would seem to support the cultivation of affective pleasures.

What I find most interesting about this is how such considerations also promote social/political critique. The existence of bareback porn call into question a culture that continues to associate the gay community with STI’s like HIV/AIDS. In this way, or so I want to propose, barebacking not only suggests that porn might nurture our emotions. It connects human affect to activism.

#### **5. Website demonstrations: CAS Portal, CAS Website, and Digital Measures**

##### **Digital Measures**

Your personal profile page... not displayed when you click "View My Profile"

Why?

ITS switched faculty profile platform to Digital Measures (Summer 19)

Default status for making profile public = not public

Fix... Make your page public via Digital Measures >> Display Profile Option >> Yes  
Profile On/Off Switch...

Go to My Fairfield

Search for and select: "Digital Measures"

Scroll to select: "Faculty Profile" option/link

First dropdown menu, select: "Yes"

**Instructions for editing your profile:** <https://fairfield.quip.com/UGOnA3AsO7EE>

Associate Dean Sauer will be meeting with ITS about Digital Measures.

Prof. Downie stated that he wants to be able control what is on his profile. He does not want to have all of the information pulled from his CV.

The conversation ensued in how the data is pulled into digital measures. There needs to be a separate tab for grants. It is not obvious how to post a biography onto Digital Measures.

Prof. Biardi mentioned that he is not a member of the Department of Psychology, as stated on the website, and is a member of the Department of Biology.

If you have corrections or suggestions, please email them to Dean Sauer, before Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

We will discuss the Faculty Profiles in more detail at the February 27, 2020 CAS Meeting.

### **CAS Website**

**Content:** Minutes, Committee Rosters, CAS Documents, ASCC Links

**Access:** <http://faculty.fairfield.edu/cas/> (and via My.Fairfield)

### **CAS Portal**

**Content:** Links to full spectrum of CAS documents, links, and resources

**Access:** My.Fairfield

## 6. Report from the CAS Core Director (Prof. Shannon Harding)

The *Magis* Core was launched in the Fall of 2019.

The goal of the core curriculum was a common experience for students in all schools. It is discipline based core/tiered experience. In the *Magis* Core, there are 15 required courses. The *Magis* Core has three signature elements: Three Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) /Writing in the Disciplines (WID) experiences, three Social Justice (SJ) Experiences, and one Interdisciplinary (ID) experience.

Details about the *Magis* Core are given here

<http://faculty.fairfield.edu/magiscore/>

Prof. Harding outlined the recent accomplishments for the *Magis* Core Curriculum.

### Updated Materials for Faculty

- Changes to the Core/Governance procedures are in the Journal of Record (approved in May)
- Changes to the Undergraduate Catalog are completed.
- Advising materials have been created and posted to the *Magis* Core Website.

### Continue to Encourage & Approve the Signature Element Courses

- May/summer WAC/WID and ID CDI's and Core Clinic
- ID Approvals: 31 courses
- SJ Approvals: 39 courses
- WAC/WID approvals: 52 courses
- Worked with the Registrar to confirm designations are accurate and applied to Fall courses
- Uploaded list of Approved Courses and Spring Offerings to the *Magis* Core Website

### Drafted an Assessment Plan

- Team of five faculty attended the 4-day AAC&U Institute on Assessment in June
- Drafted learning objectives, vision statement, and a comprehensive plan for assessment
- Plan endorsed by the *Magis* Core Assessment Committee
- Warmly received by the CAS Dean and the Provost
- Core Director worked with a group to respond to NECHE accreditation concerns
- Worked to identify platforms for artifact collection for assessment

### Drafted a Plan for Course Release with WAC Courses

- Ad-hoc committee charged by UCC to examine faculty compensation for WAC/WID Courses

- Plan will be submitted to the Provost next week

### **Worked with Study Abroad**

- Submitted a policy for how student will select courses abroad. This is currently in review at Academic Council.
- Working with a team of faculty across the institution to discuss

### **Identified new Leadership for *Magis* Core**

- Elizabeth Petrino is the representative from CAS/new core director
- Call for new members of the interdisciplinary Subcommittee.

Prof. Harding then outlined the goals for the future:

- Improve online materials about the *Magis* Core (including websites)
- Create a centralized advising link
- Increase the number of signature element courses
  - CDI's: Clinics and Enhancement Funds are available
  - WAC Course release plan is being reviewed by the Provost
- Work with the Registrar to improve process and identification of Signature Element courses
- Work with Honors Directors to encourage WAC and SJ and ID designations in courses
- Begin assessing the Core
  - Pilot assessment with ENW 100
  - Invite AAC&U expert to campus to assist in the process
  - Fall 2020: Overnight retreat to kick off Core assessment?

Prof. Harding outlined concerns about the *Magis* core.

### **Meeting the demands of students**

- Need a better process in place to ensure we have enough Tier 1 and Tier 2 offerings
- Need 60-80 sections of SJ and WAC/WID courses per semester to fully run
- Need to simplify the approval process at all levels

### **Having enough support for the core**

- Implementing course release for WAC/WID
- Encouraging departments to offer team taught courses in the Core
- Hiring full-time faculty in the College to deliver the Core

Next, Prof. Harding outlined opportunities to participate in the core.

### **Course Development Institutes (CDI's) with the CAE**

- SJ: January 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- WAC/WID and ID: May 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>
- Faculty receive \$500 for participation and \$500 upon submission of courses

**Core Clinic: January 9<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**

- Faculty receive \$250 upon submission of existing courses for designation

**ID and SJ Enhancement Funds**

- ID Courses: Funds for Guest Speakers and Special Events
  - \$50 for Guest lectures in your ID course outside of your discipline
  - \$250 for outside of ID classroom experiences
- SJ Courses: Funds for Special Events
  - \$250 for outside of SJ classroom experiences

Prof. Harding announced that there will be something similar for WAC and WID courses and these opportunities will be announced in January.

Prof. Harding then thanked the following people

- Fairfield 2020 Task Force
- Former Core Directors
- Advisory Board Members
- Summer Working Groups
- Core Revision Committees
- CAE
- FDEC
- *Magis* Core Curriculum Committee
- ID, SJ, and WAC/WID Subcommittees
- *Magis* Core Assessment Committee
- Core Writing Faculty
- Faculty that have applied for ID, SJ, WAC/WID designation
- Provost Siegel, Dean Greenwald, Associate Provost Mark Ligas, and Associate Dean Elizabeth Petrino

She mentioned that the Core is in good hands with Prof. Petrino.

Prof. Harding received a standing ovation.

Associate Dean Petrino remarked that a team is only as good as a leader. She thanked Prof. Harding for her work and dedication with the Core. Previous Directors of the Core, Professors Bob Epstein and Lynne Porter were thanked for their dedication.

**7. Dean's Remarks**

Considering that it is dark, cold and a Friday afternoon in December, the Dean mentioned that he will be brief.

The Dean thanked Prof. Harding for her efforts. The Core is in the College of Arts and Sciences. The Core is evolving and it is not perfect. The Dean advocated for the resources for the Core. We do need more courses in the signature elements. There will be a logical and predictive model to predict what is needed and in what areas. The Dean will work with Chairs to predict what is needed.

The Dean mentioned that we will need to work hard to staff all of the courses. We will move forward with the course releases and will need more full-time Faculty to deliver these courses.

The Faculty do amazing work with students and take it for granted. The trustees were blown away with the kinds of work the students are doing with Faculty.

The Dean needs to do a better job promoting the Faculty and letting everyone know the good things that the College Faculty are doing.

We have made enormous progress with assessment. In 2017, we had 0 % compliance with assessment and in 2019, we have 91 % compliance. All of the programs are in various stages with regards to assessment.

Going forward, the Dean mentioned that Departments and the Dean's office need to plan out more than one semester at a time. It is important for students and for classes. Next term, Chairs will be asked for a two-year course map.

The Dean thanked Elizabeth Petrino for serving as Associate Dean for the past 2.5 years. Prof. Harding left the core in great shape. Prof. Petrino will provide important leadership for the College.

The Dean thanked Prof. Lacy for agreeing to serve as Associate Dean starting January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The College is moving forward; it is a bright time for Fairfield and the College of Arts and Sciences.

The Dean thanked everyone for a great semester and wished everyone well in the last few weeks of the term.

## **8. Adjournment**

Davidson/Harding.

Respectfully submitted,

John R. Miecznikowski  
Secretary of the College of Arts and Sciences  
2017-2021