

Fairfield University

College of Arts & Sciences

Faculty Meeting

Thursday, September 18, 2008

Robbin D. Crabtree, Ph.D., Dean

Priorities & Activities 2008-2011



VISION for CAS

Guiding Board of Advisors

Strengthen and enrich the work of the College of Arts & Sciences as the oldest, largest, and most diverse school at Fairfield University:

- guardian of the institution's Jesuit and liberal arts traditions
- home of the core curriculum
- community celebrating collaboration, excellence, and innovation in teaching, research, and service.

Priorities & Agenda

- I. Responding to the NEASC Report
- II. Implementing the University Strategic Plan in the College
- III. Directing and Supporting the work of the CAS Board of Advisors
- IV. Reorganizing CAS Personnel & Offices

Responding to the NEASC Report

- ▶ Periodic Program Review
- ▶ Assessment of Student Learning
- ▶ Annual Faculty Performance Review
- ▶ Advising
- ▶ Governance

CAS Task Forces

▶ **Advising**

- Associate Dean Boquet, point person
- Informed by NACADA

▶ **Governance**

- Dean Crabtree, College leaders & faculty
- Informed by Blue Ribbon Commission

Implementing the University Strategic Plan in the College

- ▶ Integration of the Core Curriculum
- ▶ Integration of Living & Learning
- ▶ Integration of Graduate Education with University Mission & Campus Operations
- ▶ Diversity
- ▶ Mission & Identity

Moving Core Integration into the College

- ▶ Formalize & consolidate CAS – CAE alliance
- ▶ Move CII into CAS departments
 - Chair retreat
 - Department meetings and workshops
- ▶ Analyze existing data on integrative work
 - Interdisciplinary Program Directors, committees
- ▶ Align budget to CI work in the College
- ▶ Develop ALL faculty for core integration

Direct and Support the CAS Board of Advisors

- ▶ 3-year projects winding down
- ▶ New emphasis on building endowment
- ▶ Global Citizenship & the Environment
- ▶ New members joining
- ▶ Faculty member will report at CAS meetings

College of Arts & Sciences Board of Advisors

One of Four Funding Priorities for building the CAS Endowment:

“Enhance the quantity, quality, and visibility of faculty accomplishments: research, creative work, and other professional contributions made by faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences”

CAS investment in Faculty Research 2006-2008

- ▶ Start-up costs
- ▶ Professional travel
- ▶ CAS board funded
- ▶ Humanities Institute funded
- ▶ Additional grants and stipends
- ▶ CAS cost share on research grants

**3-year TOTAL =
More than \$ 1.3 million**

Reorganizing CAS Personnel, Offices, and Leadership

Priority articulated:

“Develop CAS organizational culture and capacity, building a professional learning team where diversity is a ‘way of proceeding’ ”

CAS Personnel

▶ **Faculty Associate Deans:**

- Dr. Beth Boquet: core integration, advising
- **Your name here: your expertise, your ideas**

▶ **Assistant Deans**

- Susan Peterson (undergraduate & graduate)
- Dawn Quintiliani (undergraduate & study abroad)

▶ **Operational Staff**

- Jean Daniele, Assistant to the Dean
- Jean Siconolfi, Assistant to Boquet & Peterson
- Brandi Hayden, Assistant to new Faculty AD & Quintiliani

▶ **Office renovation**

- Summer 2009

“Challenges and Opportunities”

- ▶ 30-40 pre-tenure faculty reviews / year
- ▶ 8-12 rank & tenure cases / year
- ▶ 8-12 faculty searches / year
- ▶ Creating a mentoring culture for ALL faculty
- ▶ Proliferation of “great ideas”; rising costs & increasing demands in tough economic times
- ▶ Increasing diversity of students & faculty

Class of 2012

- ▶ 8734 applications
- ▶ 5100 admits – Acceptance Rate = 58.4%
- ▶ 903 enrolled – YIELD = 17.7%
- ▶ SATs – 1120-1300
- ▶ 175 AHANA (19%)
- ▶ 12 from Bridgeport scholarship program
- ▶ 8 international students
- ▶ 21% first-generation
- ▶ S.E.S. diversity – 13% Pell Grant eligible

Implications of Growing Diversity

- ▶ Changing attitudes about who are students and faculty really are
- ▶ Pedagogical diversity
- ▶ Advising and mentoring - 360°
- ▶ Diversity \sim changing demographics
= changing institutional culture

Becoming a Diverse Institution

- ▶ Commit to self- / institutional analysis and change
- ▶ Develop inclusive formal and informal structures
- ▶ Build community based on trust, mutual respect, and caring
- ▶ Partner with the larger community on anti-oppression and justice work

**Questions & Discussion
of Priorities
for the College**

