

Minutes
Department of Public Relations Faculty Meeting
January 23, 2017

Members Present: Wright, Christiano, Ferguson, Hon, Kelly, Lee, Men, Pelfrey, Tappan.

1. Minutes from the faculty meeting on Dec. 5, 2016 were approved with no changes.

2. **Doctoral Advising** – Linda Hon led a discussion of mentoring of doctoral students and faculty members summarized numbers of students for whom they serve as chair. Linda expressed some concern that certain faculty members are carrying or will be carrying too heavy a doctoral advising load due to relatively heavy demand for PhDs in public relations. Mary Ann emphasized that when an application file is sent to someone for review there is no automatic assumption that the person will chair the potential student's committee. Faculty members agreed to be keenly aware of the need to advise doctoral students.

3. **JOU3109c – Multimedia Reporting** – Faculty members voted unanimously to drop JOU3109c as a requirement for public relations students since it is no longer a prerequisite for the reporting course and members of the Dept. of Journalism faculty deemed it not necessary in preparation for the course. Members agreed to allow students another professional elective to replace the three credit hours.

4. **College Security Work Group** – Deanna Pelfrey distributed copies of an email sent by Randy Wright to everyone in the college. The email summarizes changes affecting security procedures in Weimer Hall. Most notably, the changes include the following:

a. extending the swipe card door access from the second and third floor atrium lobbies and into the labs to one hour earlier in the morning and four hours later in the evening. The new hours are 7 am to 10 pm.

b. opening central/atrium stairwell access for both entry and exit on the first, second and third floors (partially in response to recent problems with the elevators).

c. allowing students with evening classes in the AHA) Lab to have two access routes during evenings and weekends --through the main atrium/third floor and from the outside door to the media properties and via the elevator to the third floor.

Deana explained that the college is also considering installing security cameras in the building. Faculty members discussed this briefly, with some question as to whether it helps with safety if the cameras are not monitored. It was agreed that the cameras might help protect property. Deanna stressed that the security group and Faculty Senate are seeking input from the faculty.

5. **Scheduling of Final Chair Search Meetings** – Faculty members discussed possible times for a faculty meeting to discuss results of the Chair Search Committee discussions. Linda said that she would go over the schedules and send an announcement as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.