

## CAS Policy Committee

September 14, 2020

3:30 – 5:00 PM

Zoom meeting

### *Agenda*

1. Approve minutes from 05/18/20 meeting
2. Approve election of at-large representatives to Policy Committee, terms 2020-2023:  
  
ENG      Judith Goldman  
PSC      Harvey Palmer
3. Approve Rebecca Brown (MUS) as permanent replacement for representative John Opera, and Alison Hendricks (CDS) for representative Soroush Sadeghi.
4. Establishment of standing PhD Excellence Oversight Committee to replace acting committee. This discussion relies on familiarity with the proposed verbiage (attached to email). Major points to consider:
  - A. Should Psychology be included with Social Sciences (the typical grouping) or Natural Sciences and Mathematics (Dean's office sectors)? (for reference, a listing of our four sectors, with Psych separate, is attached to email; Dean's office sectors can be found at <https://arts-sciences.buffalo.edu/faculty-staff/deans-office-reorganization.html>)
  - B. The Bridge Committee recommended two nonvoting grad student representatives. Grad students have requested three and wish to be voting members of the committee. (Letter from grad students and unsolicited statements from current members of acting PhD oversight committee in favor and opposed attached to email). Many different proposals have been floating around so I am including the most comprehensive list. We must decide how many representatives grad students should have, and for each of these options, whether they be voting or nonvoting for a grand total of six different options as follows:
    - i. Two representatives: voting or nonvoting
    - ii. Three representatives, one from each Dean's office sector: voting or nonvoting
    - iii. Four representatives, one from each sector for which we have faculty representatives: voting or nonvoting
  - C. How shall we set up elections? Coming up with a long term, permanent solution is fairly straightforward, but this fall is more complicated. The two are considered separately below.

- i. Long term: Faculty vote only for representatives from their own sector (“district”), and, as terms are staggered for sectors with two representatives, only one candidate per sector will be elected each year (one every other year for Arts, which has only one representative). We have narrowed down the best options to either Approval or Borda voting (ranking candidates). Harvey Palmer will be providing a document explaining these and describing the advantages and disadvantages of each in this type of election.
    - ii. Fall 2020: This fall we have to select one candidate from each sector for terms ending Spring 2021 *and* one candidate from each sector for terms ending Spring 2022. When we solicit candidates, should we ask which seat they prefer, or give the winner the longer term and the runner-up the shorter term? (For Arts, who only have one representative. I would suggest that we hold the election for the longer term.)
  - D. How do we ensure minority (e.g. faculty of color) representation? Is it sufficient to simply recruit candidates of color?
5. Approve elections for Chair (Damien Keane, ENG) and Vice-Chair (Harvey Palmer, PSC).