General Faculty Meeting

April 30, 2019, 2:30PM

Ms. Goldie Prelogar, Chair of the Arts and Sciences Academic Policies Committee, presided at the AY2018-19 Arts and Sciences General Faculty Meeting. She called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

Minutes from spring 2018 had been posted on the college webpage for review. Motion to accept the minutes made by Grant Moss and seconded by Bobby Winters. Motion carried.

Dr. Lynette Olson, Provost, was the College’s guest at this year’s meeting. In honor of Provost Olson’s retirement, Ms. Prelogar recognized Dr. Olson’s dedication and contributions to the University and the College. She read a short excerpt from Dr. Olson’s first newsletter as chair of FCS in winter, 1996, in which Dr. Olson described her new role as being on the “threshold of great things.” On behalf of the College, Ms. Prelogar presented Dr. Olson with a bouquet of flowers, representing the College’s appreciation for her service.

Faculty Awards were presented by Ms. Kathleen Flannery, VP of University Advancement, and Dr. Mary Carol Pomatto, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. University Advancement sponsors two $500 awards for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Christina Brodsky, Biology Department, and Dr. Serif Uran, Physics Department, received those awards. Dr. Brodsky was unable to attend so Dr. Virginia Rider, Chair of Biology, accepted the award on her behalf. The College of Arts and Sciences sponsors awards for excellence in research, service, creative activity, and advising. Since there were no nominations in creative activity nor advising this year, the college sponsored two awards in each of the other two categories. Dr. Grant Moss, EML, and Dr. Neil Snow, Biology, received the awards for Excellence in Research. Dr. Cynthia Huffman, Math, and Dr. Brian Moots, EML, received the awards for Service.

Dr. Pomatto also recognized Dr. Gary Wilson, HPSS, as recipient of the Dr. Robert K. Ratzlaff Outstanding Faculty Award.

Dr. Pomatto presented dean’s remarks. She expressed her appreciation to Ms. Prelogar for organizing the meeting and to the Foundation for supporting faculty through their support of the Excellence in Teaching awards. She also extended her congratulations to all award recipients and added her appreciation to the College’s for Dr. Olson, saying that she will “always be a part” and “will be missed.” Dr. Pomatto provided a hand out which summarized some of the year’s highlights for the College, including a list of changes in academic rank, who had been awarded sabbatical leave, spring 2019 retirements, and a sampling of departmental/school successes and community service. She gave a brief update on the Strategic Visioning process, identified some of the challenges that lie ahead, and expressed gratitude to the faculty, staff, and college leadership for their retention/recruitment efforts and continued support of the College and University.

Ms. Prelogar opened the floor for other business. None was presented and the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.