

Faculty Chair Steve Blakeslee opened the meeting at 3:14 p.m.

The December 5, 2018 Faculty Meeting minutes were approved as distributed.

Steve asked faculty to indicate if they have announced to their students the opportunity to participate in the Geoduck Student Assembly and indicated there is a meeting next Wednesday.

**Test-Optional Admission** – Eric Pedersen provided background information that led him to propose that there be two paths for first-time, first-year applicants to apply for admission. A question and answer session ensued, followed by presentation of the following motion, which was then seconded and further discussed:

*In the interests of creating a fairer and more balanced assessment of freshmen applicants to Evergreen, we move that the faculty approve the creation of two distinct paths to admission beginning in Fall 2020:*

*1. Submission of official transcript(s) and test scores (ACT or SAT), plus an optional application statement;*

*OR*

*2. Submission of official transcript(s) and a required application statement.*

As a minor vote (i.e., with motion, deliberation, and voting all occurring within a single meeting), the motion required a simple majority of affirmative votes from eligible voters in order to pass. With 59 ballots cast, the motion passed unanimously. The effect of this vote is to clear the way for the College to inform the Washington State Achievement Council of the proposed change; to develop, in a consultative manner, the specific procedures for review of applications; and to announce the changes to the larger community. Discussion of the motion included a request from the floor that the faculty return to a discussion of inclusive language regarding students in their first year.

**Winter & Spring 2019 Curriculum Update, Paths of Study, and Hiring Priorities Process** – Trevor Speller began by providing a winter and spring 2019 enrollment update and an associated update on the number of faculty teaching and the imbalance in the number of students in programs, ranging from several that are under-enrolled to others with significant waitlists.

Jen Drake followed with the Accreditation peer review committee's positive assessment of the faculty's work that it shared at the end of their November visit. She then amplified Trevor's remarks regarding the mismatch between the number of faculty and students, particularly in several areas of the curriculum that students are seeking to study. Jen indicated that there is no plan to implement a reduction in force of regular faculty as described in the CBA, in the next two years and that the Senior Leadership Team has instead dedicated money from college reserves. She provided an update on the Paths of Study, including those paths that have been approved at this point. Jen then turned to a discussion of hiring implications for 2019-20 and 2020-21 that included a review of the hires that were made following the recommendations made by the 2015-16 Hiring Priorities DTF (as well as a significant percentage of faculty who are retirement-age). She presented a list of regular hires that will be made in 2019-20 to support the Paths of Study and other high-demand areas of the curriculum, with a fall 2020 start date. She ended by sharing a request that she's made of the Standing Committee on the Curriculum to design the next hiring priorities process. A question and answer session followed.

#### Announcements

- Greg Mullins announced that the Longhouse is curating winter and spring gallery exhibits.
- Greg provided three updates from the Library (referencing his earlier e-mail) related to videostreaming, changes in search functions, and the continuation of a pilot project where all books being used in the curriculum are on closed reserve.
- GSU member and Wellness Committee liaison Melinda Dauley announced that she is seeking to form a council to address addiction issues on campus.
- Stephen Beck announced an upcoming proposal deadline for the March 1-2 [Ethics in Action conference](#).
- Frances Rains announced that she and another faculty member received flyers that contained personally targeting information at their home over winter break. Jen then requested that the deans be notified in such instances so they can work with the faculty.
- Alex Markley announced the next Geoduck Student Assembly and invited all students to participate.

Steve closed the meeting at 5:04 p.m.