

Committee on Academic Priorities

Jamie Taylor English, 2018-2021 Chair 2019

Dianna Xu Computer Science 2020-21 (on Leave Semester II)

Michael Allen International Studies Political Science, 2020-22 (on Leave Semester II)

Penny Armstrong French and Francophon, 2019-2022

Don Barber Environmental Studies and Geology, 2020-21 (on leave 2020)

Radcliffe Edmonds Greek, Latin and Classical Studies, 2020-23

Jane Ceglowski Economics, 2019 (Semester II Substitute)

April

Although the major portion of CAP's work entailed meeting with deans and making recommendations about their position requests, CAP also engaged in other efforts during the 2019-20 academic year. We discuss these efforts in more detail below.

Reflections on CAP's Mission and Role

According to the bylaws of the faculty of Bryn Mawr College, the Committee on Academic Priorities is charged to:

consider all matters concerning academic priorities, including, but not limited to, staffing allocations, department and program facilities and resources, restructuring or terminating existing departments and programs (insofar as these have significant resource implications), and other resources relating to teaching and research.

In the last decade the College has benefitted from a few specific requests that have expanded the faculty, including a new faculty line in Data Science in Environmental Studies, in Biology TJ9.01424 (t) -2T 50 0 0 ((nc) 4-2 ((og] TJ9.0141 cm B 50 0 (t)0 412 -500 Tm /TT4 1 Tf [(in)

Although much of CAPOs work is concerned with the allocation of ~~tenure~~ and continuing non-tenure track faculty lines, it is also charged with considering other

Reflections on the Bi-College Relationship

In 2018~~2019~~, CAP recommended that clear, concrete, and written policies be developed for Bi-College resource requests, with particular focus on departments and programs that are officially designated Bi

Finally, it is the College's practice to retain tenure-track faculty lines in their particular departments when those lines are vacated within the timeframe of the first contract (whether by resignation or non-reappointment). In other words, those vacated lines do not become available to be allocated to other departments or programs. This year, four retrack lines were vacated before the end of the first contract in the following departments: Political Science, Russian, Economics and Computer Science.

any English department because it offers critical vocabularies that have become central to literary study as well as to cinematic studies.

CAP recommends that the English Department's request for a tenure-track position in film and media studies be approved at the level of Assistant Professor, for the following reasons

The increase in majors from 2018 is a primary impetus for CAP's recommendation. The numbers of students majoring in English have grown from a worrisome low in 2018 of 14 students to more usual 35-39 majors. CAP notes that this number of FTEs should be re-evaluated in the future, given the CAP 20167 recommendation that English might reach an ideal FTE of 9.6 (down from its current 10.6). To ensure that this faculty line remains in keeping with the history of the Film Studies Program, CAP expects English to work with the Provost to create a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that addresses how the division of labor between the two departments of English and History of Art will provide leadership for and sustain the Film Studies Program, as well as how the courses of the ne-7 (y) (t) -2 0 of the ne-7 (y)t

CAP recommended

with the first line at a more advanced level, is crucial for the GSSWSR to provide mentorship for its junior faculty.

CAP would like to recognize the GSSWSR's innovations and reorganizations in the last

and History of Art; likewise, Haverford assumes the leading role in, for example, Religious Studies and Music

Mathematics Department, Tenure-Track Request

The Mathematics Department requested approval for a tenure-track position for a statistician to teach in the Department. The Department noted the growing demand for statistical training across many areas of the College and pointed to its recent external review that noted the anomalous position of the Department in lacking a statistician among their faculty. The Department suggested that a statistician could help develop a new minor in statistics within the Department. More broadly, the Department discussed their intent to revise their curricular structure to include more applied mathematics, to which a statistician could contribute.

CAP recommends that the Mathematics Department request for a tenure-track position in statistics not be approved, for the following reasons:

CAP recognizes that the demand for statistics is high in a number of fields on the College, but we also recognize that many different departments already offer a variety of courses that involve statistics. Rather than create a new position, we recommend that the Department consider other options for addressing the demand for statistics. (The following text is a placeholder for a table or list of courses and departments.)

involve other staffing factors (such as a combination of leaves) that would necessitate an immediate search.

CAP also recommends that the Sociology Department's request for a second tenured track position not be approved at this time, for the following reasons:

CAP recognizes that the subfields identified for the second positions (social network, economic sociology, and/or law) represent critical areas of sociology. However, from a staffing standpoint, Sociology would be expanded by the addition of another position to the Department at this moment. Although CAP commends the Department for proactively planning for the future of the Department, we abide by the College's practice of not approving new lines before departures are formally finalized. It also seems beneficial for the Department to bring its new sociologist of race into the conversation about the Department's future hires. In addition, CAP recommends that the Department explore the ways in which another position might contribute to other departments and programs that approach related questions from different disciplinary perspectives such as Anthropology, Growth and Structure of Cities, or Political Science.

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Mary J. Olson

3-30-2020

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