

School of Journalism
Faculty Meeting Minutes, Friday, January 31, 2014

Faculty and staff in attendance: Brett Akagi, Barbara Barnett, Bob Basow, Tim Bengtson, Peter Bobkowski, Ann Brill, John Broholm, Yvonne Chen, Mark Crabtree, Jerry Crabtree, Pam Fine, Mugur Geana, Penny Hodge, Carol Holstead, Tien Lee, Carson Levine, Denise Linville, Allison Lopez, Kara Lynch, Chuck Marsh, Lisa McLendon, Patty Noland, Bill Oates, Scott Reinardy, Hyunjin Seo, Max Utsler, Gayle Vannicola, Tom Volek, Doug Ward and Mike Williams.

Dean Brill opened with a discussion about metrics. Faculty discussed how to measure the School's success and whether to measure our success by credit hour numbers or enrollment numbers. All agreed we become what we measure.

Brill welcomed Bill Oates to the School. Oates has been hired as a lecturer to teach Multimedia Reporting and International Journalism during the spring semester.

The discussion of cluster hires has been at the Provost and Deans' level for one year. Deans are working together to identify major issues to be emphasized. The issues are health communication with a serious look at how it affects people and big data, public information and polling. Schools will target their own hires and/or form clusters to hire leadership foundation professors. Clusters will be formed as research teams. The J-School strives to attract two new faculty lines and to increase research production.

The discussion of a cluster hire proposal continued with these two considerations:

- What are the BIG opportunities/issues facing journalism and mass communication?
- What other departments and/or schools at KU should be our strategic partners in approaching those topics?

Four groups were formed to discuss and report on these topics:

- Health communication
- Ubiquitous information
- Social entrepreneurship and change
- Data discrimination

Discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned.

Priorities AY2014: Master's program direction and solutions; Hiring great colleagues this year; Developing strategies for online courses; Creating more opportunities for students, especially the student agency; Fundraising!