Present: Dale McFadden (chair), Stuart Davis, Julia Fox, Peter Guardino, Vivian Halloran, Scott Michaels, Kevin Pilgrim, Julie Van Voorhis, Nick Williams

The meeting was called to order at 4:00. The minutes from September 21 were discussed and approved.

Members of the CPC gave brief updates on the most recent BFC, Chairs and Directors, and Arts & Humanities meetings, as well as the Town Hall meeting on the Provost’s Grand Challenges initiative.

Executive Dean Larry Singell joined the meeting at 4:45. Discussion began with an update on the status of the proposed Food Institute, for which faculty comments were solicited, reviewed and sent to Peter Todd, who will be its initial director.

Discussion then turned to the presentation of the College budget for FY 2015-2016, an overview of which was provided to the CPC on September 21. Dean Singell noted that the College was able to balance the budget this year. However, the situation regarding the budget is not resolved because revenues associated with student credit hours will continue to decline, and costs are not likewise declining. In addition, initial campus commitments to provide funds for College initiatives such as the School of Global and International Studies Building are nearing completion. Non-recurring cash spending has expanded over the past few years due to the influx of cash resulting from the student fee surplus, which is distributed at the end of the academic year. However, the trend in these surplus funds has generally been declining over the last 5 years, with the last year being an exception. Centers can be funded using cash, since the commitments to these Centers are for a fixed period of time and are subject to regular review. Dean Singell told the CPC that he would be better able to provide an estimate about the health of the College’s budget in the spring semester, when more information was available.

The CPC and Dean Singell discussed the potential effect of the Provost’s Grand Challenges initiative, which now includes the possibility of faculty hires in “emerging areas” of research. The Dean states that, while it is not possible to speculate about the fraction of College hiring that will be associated with campus initiatives such as Grand Challenges and Engineering, the College does have an incentive to align its hiring with these initiatives, and this will significantly shape how the College hires in the near future.
The CPC and Dean also discussed the BFC’s policies on faculty incompetence and misconduct, on which the BFC is currently working. In light of the BFC’s work on these policies, the Dean asked the CPC to consider developing two related policies for the College: one for faculty incompetence and a separate policy for faculty misconduct.

Dean Singell left the meeting at 5:30, after which the meeting adjourned.

Julie Van Voorhis, recorder