

## October 12 Academic Council Agenda

1. Committee Reports
  - a. Updates anyone?

Appointments: Have some interviews this month and next month; in the process of coming up with questions and going through scheduling

Admissions: Meet and greet email

Equity: Meets next week

Curriculum: Reached out to Sheppard

Up to us to take the initiative and put stuff on the agenda based on what there is in the strategic plan.

2. Midterm Evaluations
  - a. Distribute to classes

Dean Benedet wants us to distribute the midterm evaluations next week—we're also doing evaluations for adjuncts and practitioners and they don't have mailboxes, so hoping to divide up the load and deliver them to those classes that nobody in Academic Council has.

When you drop off the surveys, ask the professors to do reserve about 10 minutes at the end of class to fill them out. The surveys are only for professors so we do not need to collect them at the end.

Will send emails to the professors to make sure that they get distributed.

Intention for full-year 1L classes is to do them in January, but for 1L reps: talk to the small group and see if they would like to do them next week instead.

Megan will email Dean Benedet and ask for her go ahead to do the surveys in their year-long classes next week—will also mention that we are thinking of doing them in January as well.

- Also, 1Ls would prefer to give feedback to Public Law as well, so will talk to Dean Benedet about that as well.

- b. Return to ?

3. Town Halls:
  - a. Guile Debate Town Hall with the Dean Oct 17 at 1:00 pm

Dean having it on a Monday because she did not want to involve the 1Ls to a great degree, but it would be better to have more people attend. Encourage 1Ls to come!

Will have more information in the ALSS Newsflash.

b. Academic Town Hall / survey

Could potentially be combined with the Examination Town Hall—might be better for attendance.

c. Examination Town Hall

ALSS-organized.

Looking at grading, potentially moving from numerical grades to letter grades or another alternative. Chair of that committee seems open to actually moving the needle on that. Would help to have the town hall to get student opinions and support from whichever direction we want to move.

Still looking at dates.

4. Course Guide

a. Josh

Have about 30 courses covered, need volunteers to assist finishing the project. Goal is to help students study for the course and know what to expect from the course.

Thinking about doing a partial rollout within the next two weeks of ones that have been completed already and talk about what the best way to disseminate them.

Could potentially do it as a wiki-type database.

5. Strategic Plan

a. Broad based admissions discussion

School wants to do better in terms of doing diversity in terms of ethnicity, socioeconomic backgrounds, etc. Faculty wants to take time to gather data on current cohort as well as who applies/gets accepted.

Would be nice to get some views on this topic. Student feedback last year in many cases asked for greater diversity in classes.

- Could put more weight on the personal essay
- Could increase the discretionary admissions
- Concern of workload for admissions staff
- Concern of what employers are looking for

Do we want to add other metrics other than GPA/LSAT formula.

6. UBC Wide tuition consultation
  - a. Gathering Student Feedback Ideas

Law school would have to comply with this increase.

Increase of 2%--should get feedback on the individual level.

Concern of tuition increases having an impact on diversity and socioeconomic levels.

Alexei a good person to advocate our position school-wide as VP External.

7. Looking Ahead:
  - a. Student / Faculty Mixer

Usually a 1L-run event because the idea is to have a “Caffeine with the Dean”-type deal. Want to invite as many professors as possible, especially 1L professors. Usually send a questionnaire to professors to RSVP to indicate if they are going to hire research positions (basic premise of the event).

Last year was not as successful because other events at the same time had food, so need to be careful with timing. Need to save money for best CAN competition too.

January would be better, but we need to revisit this at another meeting this term.

- b. Best CAN Competition

Facebook-voting competition for best CAN with gift cards as prizes.

- c. Next Meeting Wednesday October 26<sup>th</sup>

Faculty council meeting tomorrow (Oct 27<sup>th</sup>).