The meeting came to order at 4:05 P.M.

A motion to approve the minutes of the 30 September 2015 meeting passed.

**Report from the Dean of Arts & Sciences**

Dean Schaal reported on the searches currently undertaken by the Faculty of Arts & Sciences and the University, including for new deans of admissions and of the School of Social Work. The Program in African and African-American Studies is looking for a new director, while the former Program in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies has become a department. Environmental Studies will begin a new inter-school Ph.D. program, as well as a first-year undergraduate program in environmental leadership.

A new Dean of the Medical School will start on 1 December 2015.

Work has begun renovating space in Seigle Hall for the Department of Sociology. The planning phase of the Bryant Hall project has begun. Renovation of Olin Library will begin in 2016 and continue through 2018. New buildings will go up at the east end of campus, in a project publicized in the *Record*.

**Introduction of Dr. Lori White, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs**

Dr. White introduced her areas of responsibility, including but not limited to residential life, student health, athletics, student support, the first-year center, student groups, the Career Center, the Dean of Students office, the Office for International Students and Scholars, scholarship programs, and student conduct.

She spoke of reasons students give for choosing to attend WU, and of national challenges in student affairs. These include sexual assault prevention, Title IX compliance, mental health, substance abuse prevention, access and support for first-generation and Pell Grant students, campus climates and the support of diversity and inclusion, and preparing students for life after college.

Dr. White told faculty that WU students reported in recent survey that they believed that the university would take reports of sexual assault seriously. She also reported that demand for mental health services outruns supply, and asked for faculty help in identifying students who need support.

Dr. White will hold a meeting of students and others on Monday, 16 November to discuss events at the University of Missouri.
Dr. White’s first major initiative involves the appointment of a strategic planning committee to guide the work of Student Affairs in next five years. Dean Jennifer Smith will chair this committee. The last time a similarly charged committee met was in 2008. Dr. White mentioned the need to support and enhance grad student life on campus as one of her strategic planning goals.

Professor Rafia Zafar asked what specific programs already exist or will be created to support students with Pell Grants. Dr. White mentioned the need for good communication with these students and their parents. The university may create summer programs, getting students on campus and exposing them to college-level classes early. It will also put in place more intrusive advising, and take a holistic view of students’ individual finances.

**Report from the Arts & Sciences Faculty Council**

Professor Catherine Keane, co-chair, thanked faculty for response to the proposed policy on discrimination and harassment. The Council has forwarded responses to the Faculty Senate Council. Professor Keane thanked the WU chapter of the AAUP for its work in drafting a formal response and suggestions for amendments.

The Council has no update on the discussion, still ongoing, of the Professor of the Practice rank.

The Council will soon solicit faculty to run for election to standing committees.

Professor Andrea Friedman asked for clarification on documents sent out about the Discrimination and Harassment Hearing Committee. Professor Keane replied that these are still the only drafts circulated, and that the Faculty Senate Council has not yet made any other revision available. When one becomes available, the Arts & Sciences Faculty Council will send it to faculty.

**Report from the Online Education Working Group**

Professor Michael Sherberg reported that the Provost convened this group to represent all schools at the university. The various schools have chosen to move forward in online education at different speeds.

The Working Group initially addressed the University’s relationship with Coursera, which is not yet finalized, and depends on response from the faculty. The Working Group sees no real disadvantage to working with Coursera. Classes offered under this arrangement would not count for credit for WU undergraduates. The Working Group feels that Coursera classes would offer some advantage in marketing of the faculty and the university. Faculty offering Coursera classes would teach them as unpaid overloads.
Professor Nancy Berg and Dean Steven Ehrlich are also members of the Working Group, and invite comments from faculty.

Professor Sherberg stated that the problem of handling the transfer of credits for Arts & Sciences students taking classes in other WU schools with substantial on-line components will go to the Curriculum Committee.

Professor Sherberg noted that issues remain unaddressed in measuring the efficacy of online courses.

Professor Peter Kastor asked when and if faculty would receive additional details on Coursera, especially regarding how the administration would select faculty to offer courses with it, and what impact it would have on faculty members’ intellectual property rights. Prof. Kastor asked how faculty could have an opinion on an agreement with Coursera without knowing the details. Professor Sherberg replied that the Working Group would get the answers to these questions and provide them to the faculty.

Professor Matthew Erlin asked how the College of Arts & Sciences currently transfers credit for classes taken by its students in other WU schools, in cases that do not involve substantial online coursework. Dean Jennifer Smith replied that Arts & Sciences students may take up to 30 credits from other WU schools. The College of Arts & Sciences currently does not discriminate among those courses, and merely accepts the credits as determined by the other WU schools concerned.

**Report from the Curriculum Committee**

Professor Peter Benson, reporting for the Curriculum Committee, moved to approve course changes as previously circulated. The motion received a second and passed.

Professor Wolfram Schmidgen asked for clarification about the rejection by the Committee of the department’s proposal of a journalism concentration. Professor Benson replied that the Committee rejected the proposal because members felt that it reflected excessively the interests of University College rather than of the English Department: the concentration specified three courses from U. College, rather than the current maximum of two that Arts & Sciences students may take. The Committee felt that if the university wished to fund the study of journalism, it could find other ways to do so, and that approval of the proposal would set a bad precedent.

Dean Steven Ehrlich said that follow-up conversations have been useful. U. College serves a purpose for day students, but would create ways of putting this into practice in the future, in a manner more comfortable for the College of Arts & Sciences. Professor Benson added that the Curriculum Committee did not intend its rejection of the journalism concentration as a statement about U. College.
Professor Schmidgen asked whether Curriculum Committee recommendations constituted final decisions, or recommendations only. Dean Schaal said that it might prove useful to include with the Curriculum Committee’s reports information about rejected proposals.

Report from the College of Arts & Sciences

Dean Jennifer Smith presented a motion to approve the list of December degree candidates. The motion received a second and passed.

Dean Smith reported that first-year students have completed their registration for next semester.

Report from the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences

Dean William Tate reported that he will complete his meetings with representatives of departments next week. The new schedule of these meetings will not change the schedule on which his office will deliver information to programs about the size of their authorized incoming class for next year.

The December meeting of the university’s Board of Trustees will discuss graduate education. Dean Tate said he had no present insight regarding what the Trustees may discuss.

When arranging activities for visiting prospective students, Directors of Graduate Studies may wish to include tours of Quadrangle Housing’s apartments.

Report from University College

Interim Dean Steven Ehrlich reported that the certificate in forensic psychology is doing well, and that U. College has created new tracks in the masters program in biology and psychology. It will soon refresh the program in communications.

The prison education program overseen by U. College will hire an academic adviser.

U. College has been working with Launch Code on a new program to begin in January 2016.

U. College has created new advisory boards for its programs in human resource management and non-profit management. The college now offers some of its programs fully online.

Following this report, Dean Schaal asked if the faculty had any new business, and faculty advanced none. The meeting adjourned at 4.55 P.M.

Minutes prepared by Seth Graebner,
Secretary to the Faculty of Arts & Sciences