Re: 2021-2022 Annual Report (University Lectures Committee)

Date: 10 May 2022

Committee Members:

Tamia Daniel

Ian Danielsen (Chair)

Julian Dymacek

Victor Ferraro

Scott Grether

Kari Hampton

Tim Holmstrom

Abigail Janney

Vicki Palmer

Becca Wetmiller

In fall semester of 2021, the committee met via Zoom on September 10, October 15, and November 12. Informal meeting Minutes were completed by Committee members on a rotating basis and posted to a Box folder designed for committee documents. Students Tamia Daniel, Victor Ferraro and Abigail Janney were recruited to the Committee to represent their respective colleges. Committee members brainstormed goals and objectives for future events and agreed by consensus to plan an informal debate event in spring 2022 and a more elaborate panel event in fall 2023.

The committee also agreed that over the next one to two years that the Simkins Lecture series should be renamed and perhaps reorganized as an endowed lecture series. Chair Ian Danielsen met with Lara Smith, Provost and Ken Perkins, Director of Development for Academic Priorities, and both expressed amenability to restructuring the lecture series. The Committee also agreed to form two subcommittees, one for each lecture event. Kari Hampton agreed to Chair the debate event subcommittee and Scott Grether agreed to Chair the panel subcommittee.

In spring semester of 2022, the committee met via Zoom on February 4 and March 4. Subcommittees met on numerous occasions via Zoom to plan for their respective events. Ian Danielsen, Kari Hampton, and Vicki Palmer worked collaboratively to secure the venue and funds for refreshments for the debate event. The subcommittee held meetings to develop the program format for the event. The event was scheduled for Wednesday, March 31, but unfortunately had to be cancelled as not enough faculty members agreed to participate in the debate part of the program. Scott Grether reported his subcommittees' making progress toward coordination of a panel event to be held in AY 2022-2023. The Committee agreed to resume meeting early in fall semester 2022.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ian Danielsen, Chair, University Lectures Committee AY 2021-2022