

Present: Jade Bowman (OCA), Paul Bylsma (ELC), Rita Cooper (CECI Dean's Office), Mark Hoffman (CECI Dean's Office), Raymond Higbea (SCLD), Jamie Langlois (SSW), Kelly Lormand (T&L), Mei Mah (CEP), Rui Niu-Cooper (LEFT), Courtney Topic (SCCJLS), and Raul Ysasi (T&L)

Absent: Melanie Rabine-Johnson (UAC)

1. Welcome and icebreaker game

2. Set Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 Schedule

We discussed the proposed meeting dates listed on the agenda. The consensus was to meet on Wednesdays, 10-11 a.m., dependent on department meetings/teaching schedules.

3. A Modest Proposal: Anchoring CACC Work

Paul referenced Wiggins and McTighe's (2005) "Understanding by Design" framework when he designs his curriculum, and wanted us to keep this process in mind as we broke out into groups to identify CACC's objectives, evaluate those objectives, and provide the work needed to meet those objectives.

Each group discussed the charges. We debriefed as a committee.

Group A

- Assisting the Dean's Office in merging two very different cultures into one more cohesive culture.
- Creating a better communication flow from CACC to units and vice versa, with CACC representatives serving as mediators/facilitators.
- Evaluate communication (identify gaps)
 - Approve/create committees as needed
 - Make recommendations to the Dean
 - Tasks – biannual meetings, college awards, collaboration activities, and CECI student organization event

Group B

- Reviewed current charges and discussed what the committee was doing and not doing.
- (a) Light on assessing, but not much feedback from surveys.
- (b) More could be done to identify gaps in communication. However, a communication person is being hired by the Provost's Office for CECI, so they may have ideas.
- (c) Haven't made many recommendations to the Dean, and most committees requesting to be a standing committee have asked us.
- (d) We have approved the Technology and Innovation Committee, and the Anti-Racism Social Justice (ARSJ) Committee has asked to be a standing committee. Audit committees as necessary.
- (e) CACC coordinates the majority of the Winter Meeting, with the Dean's Office coordinating most of the Fall Kickoff.
- (f) Language for this charge stems from each standing committee having a voice in who is being nominated. Discussed University and College awards and how these are processed. Awards newsletter?
- (g) Heavy on organizing opportunities, but needs to promote more. Also, we need to promote other college events and bring others along with us.
- (h) Haven't arranged this charge yet. Proposed a networking/professional event to create synergies with the leadership of our student organizations.

Action Item: Mark will get an official student organization list from the Student Life Office.

As a committee, we are great at creating opportunities for collaboration and community within our college...a strength to lean into.

- Give-Back Service Event
- Biannual meetings, socials, etc.

Create space for smaller, research-based events.

- QuickTalks or QuickToks in January
 - Mary Bair will be asking for two unit members to present
 - All faculty/staff can participate

Grassroots approach for communication between units and CACC. Create talking points after each meeting to bring back to the units.

4. CECI Kickoff – Monday, August 18

Discussed our role during this event and what was currently planned.

- Dean's welcome (9-9:15 a.m.)
- President Mantella and Provost Drake (9:15-10:00 a.m.).
 - Maybe use a QR code to text in questions?
Action Item: Rita will connect with Becki Visser about faculty/staff questions.
- Assigned seating using a deck of cards which boosts community within our college.
 - Best poker hand per table
Action Item: Paul to create a poker cheat sheet for each table.
- Table discussion topics.
Action Item: Paul or Rita to provide for each table.
- Paul asked for other possible topics.
 - Grant funding
 - Robert Smart's replacement – University's policy on grants
 - Shared Governance Task Force (Raymond)
- CACC to be given five minutes during the kickoff.

5. Petition to add Anti-Racism Social Justice (ARSJ) as a Standing College Committee

Paul shared the request from ARSJ to be considered as a college standing committee. [ARSJ Bylaws are available through this embedded link.](#)

- Concern was voiced regarding the name in this current climate. Will the name impact negativity?
- This committee has an open membership.
- CACC approved of the work being done by ARSJ.
- There are two ways to create this committee.
 - Create a charter from CACC with no change to the college bylaws, or
 - Include in the college bylaws with a vote by the full college (pending approval by University Counsel)

Kelly made a motion to recommend that the Anti-Racism Social Justice Committee be made a standing college committee. Mei seconded the motion. Motion failed.

Mei made a motion to recommend the Anti-Racism Social Justice Committee as a standing college committee within CECI, with concerns about the name being noted. Kelly seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Day of Service

The committee decided on the Blandford Nature Center for the Fall Give-Back Day of Service event, preferably mid to late September.

Action item: Rita will reach out to Blandford to coordinate possible dates.

7. DeVos Display Case

Mark was able to negotiate the use of the display case on the main floor of DeVos Center from July through December. He asked the committee for thoughts on what to display. The consensus was to highlight student organizations or upcoming events during this time. A template will be created to include the mission of the organization, opportunities, social media platforms, contact information, along with an organization QR code that directs them to more information. Each student organization will create a poster containing the template information.

8. Items for Next Meeting

- University Awards Communication
 - Communicate awards and expectations
 - Support for nomination packages? Have former University Awards winners from CECI talk about their nomination package process?
 - Celebrating nominees and award winners from CECI
- GACC and Orchestra Themes
 - What potential orchestra themes for the fall would tie CECI together?
- Student Committee Members
 - We are supposed to include one graduate and one undergraduate student on our committee. Can we each identify one candidate for each position to invite to join the committee?
- Confirming Future Meeting Dates