

## School of Dramatic Arts update from FC Chair

Size: We have 40 full-time and 65 active adjunct/part-time faculty. Nearly half of the adjunct/part-time faculty do not teach with us every semester but join “as needed” depending on their outside work or the classes being offered each semester.

- Similar to architecture and other schools that reported — we’ve been adjusting to our new Dean, who started at SDA in the Fall of 2021.
- Most faculty are “faculty-of-practice,” so administrative duties are often overlooked.
- One of the major accomplishments of the FC this year was holding an Open Forum for rank-and-file faculty without leadership in attendance.
- Many issues were brought up that mostly focused on the Dean’s decision-making process, which to some, seems arbitrary.
  - **AMR** was moved to Chairs, so there is concern from the faculty about who is reviewing whom.
  - There has been increased areas of instruction (i.e., new, slightly esoteric classes) and many wonder if these are necessary?
  - There have been increased hiring of Part-time/Adjunct faculty but many gaps in staffing classes core SDA classes.
- The FC distilled these concerns down to bullet points that were presented one-on-one to the Dean by the Chair of Faculty Council.
- The Dean responded positively and generally addressed some of the issues and the next full-faculty meeting.
- As far as I know, no figures of increase of salary have ever been shared with the faculty.
- On May 12, the final meeting of the Faculty Council was held, and many felt that the faculty concerns from the Open Forum were not adequately addressed and want more action from the Dean. There is a disagreement on how to approach this step.
  - Do we approach as a group?
  - Do we reach out to senior, tenured faculty to ask for perspective and advice?
  - Do we approach the Provost?
- The issue was not resolved before we all left for the summer break so will continue this effort in the fall.