The UAFAC had an active year, meeting five times between October 2016 and April 2017. We welcomed Karen Richardson as the new dean of undergraduate admissions and enrollment. The committee is indebted to Dean Richardson and Director of Financial Aid Patricia Reilly for their willingness to discuss difficult issues with the committee.

The UAFAC received reports from Dean Richardson on Early Decision (rounds 1 and 2) and Regular Decision for the Class of 2021. In addition, the UAFAC discussed the following issues:

- The institution of need-based financial aid policies for students admitted to the BFA and BA/BFA programs at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts (SFMA) going forward;

- The integration of the SFMA admissions staff with the Undergraduate Admissions Office in Bendetson Hall since July 2016 and the resulting joint recruitment applicants for the two SFMA undergraduate programs in Class of 2021;

- An update from Director of Financial Aid Patricia Reilly about an increase in the summer financial aid budget to enable a larger number of lower income undergraduates to take summer session courses they need to graduate on time;

- A discussion with Robert Mack, the associate dean for academic advising and student success, on the BLAST (Bridge to Liberal Arts Success at Tufts) Program, Quest Bridge, and ongoing support for undocumented and first-generation undergraduates, especially in light of the November 2016 presidential election;

- A discussion with Daryl Williams, associate dean of undergraduate education in the School of Engineering, and Kristin Finch, the director of the Center for STEM Diversity, on the BEST (Bridge to Engineering Success at Tufts) and other initiatives at the Center;

- An update from Dean of Undergraduate Studies Carmen Lowe on a pilot program to provide transfer applicants to the School of Arts and Sciences (College of Liberal Arts) and School of Engineering provisional notification of transfer credit for courses taken that their previous institutions that might fulfill the distributional and foundation requirements;

In addition to these issues, the UAFAC approved a draft amendment to the section of the Faculty of AS&E Bylaws dealing with the committee’s composition. The draft amendment (which is attached to this annual report), would call for increasing the number of faculty members of the UAFAC from six to seven, with the proviso that at least one come from the SFMA. The amendment also updates the titles of the administrators who are ex-officio members of the committee to take into the account the recent reorganization of Dowling Hall. The UAFAC requests that the AS&E Executive Committee review the draft.
amendment and place it on the agenda for discussion and vote at an AS&E faculty member in fall semester 2017.

Professor Anil Saigal agreed to convene the first meeting of the UAFAC in AY 2017-2018.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the committee,

Jeffrey W. Taliaferro
Associate Professor of Political Science
Chair, UAFAC, AY 2016-2017