Dean Rozell introduced the provost for a discussion of SPGIA’s proposed divisional structure and related matters. Provost Wu began with an update of campus-wide initiatives on multidisciplinary research, educational innovation, and a new budget model. He also mentioned that he is reorganizing the provost’s office and reviewed the progress of the SPGIA dean search.

Provost Wu emphasized the following points in opening the discussion of the proposed divisional structure:

- He has been impressed by the degree of faculty initiative that has been taken and praised Dean Rozell for his leadership role
- He has no fundamental issue with divisions but has a several concerns that need to be addressed before the design is complete, including:
  - Administrative complexity
  - Barriers to collaboration and innovation
  - Fostering multidisciplinarity
  - Lack of opportunity for the new dean to influence the structure

The ensuing dialogue with the faculty covered the topics raised by the provost in some depth and, in addition, addressed the following issues:

- The degree of faculty consensus needed to legitimate any new structure
- The status of the faculty vote on the recommendation of the divisional structure committee
- The authority of the dean and the provost in shared governance
- The functioning and accomplishments of the interim divisional structure
- Promotion and tenure procedures within the proposed divisional structure

Dean Rozell concluded the discussion by stating that he would work collaboratively with the provost and the bylaws committee to move the process forward.

Senior Associate Dean Hart then provided an update on SPGIA’s enrollment and budget situation.