

Faculty Council Meeting
Wednesday, March 27, 2024
3:00 pm – 5:00pm
LSC: Granada West Conference Room
WTC: Corboy 727
HSC: Health Sciences Library – Meeting Room C

Minutes

In attendance: tavis jules, Frederick Kaefer, Patricia Lee, Lavar Pope, Bill Duffy, Keith Jones, Colleen Kordish, Abigail Silva, Jonna Peterson, Katrina Binaku, Twyla Larnell Blackmond, Susana Cavallo, Ian Cornelius, James DeFrancesco, Jim Devery, Sarita Heer, Jennifer Mierisch, Maribeth Rezey, Peter Rosenblatt, Minerva Ahumada, Margaret Callahan

- 1) Call to Order
 - Begin – 3:13
 - Quorum Met – 3:17
- 2) Chair Report
 - a) Virtual Town Hall
 - Info on state of Master plan and Cudahy library (nothing going on right now) – maybe another webinar early fall –
 - Maribeth – not OK with slide on faculty focus group – wanted to know findings of focus groups – felt was cherry-picking saying what faculty discussed – Graduate Program Directors and Council – had discussion on frustration with town hall – didn't feel all questions answered or addressed and felt was scripted – didn't feel there was really room for discussion about what was said during webinar – concern about graduate students
 - Not all questions were answered – had between 50-70 questions and only 90 minutes
 - Have recording of town hall – try to address questions that were not answered - Very few librarians received newsletter with link – council newsletter roster update to include librarians – non-faculty want to subscribe to our wonderful newsletter
 - b) Meeting with Libraries
 - Jim spoke at their All Hands Meeting (all library folks) – talked about how we work, what we are working on
 - c) University Faculty Staff Events
 - Happened at all three campuses – Jim went to all three – were different proprietaries at different campuses – also met with Jeremy Lanford – want to help with making sure our

newsletters are getting out, etc. – Major concern about master plan: when are we going to see it and will we get to say anything about it – stage 1 executive summary – stage 2 - UMC chat with them and get acceptable way to gather feedback

Thank you for coming to ByLaws meeting and virtual votes – passed!

Had great conversation with President about stuff

At end of bylaws meeting – discussion on May meeting – inviting president, deans, provost staff to get together after May meeting – has to happen during commencement week – Monday May 6 of that week seems to work best - would be in afternoon, after mass is over (5:15-5:20?) – is going to be on Lakeshore!

3) Vice-Chair Report

a) Trivia Night: Friday, May 3 at Wintrust Hall (WTC: Schreiber 908)

- Doors open at 5:30
- Game starts at 6:30
- Food, drinks, dessert
- Using online platform for game – one team member has to download app to play

4) Executive Committee

a) Action Item:

i) Reorganization of the Institute of Pastoral Studies to the College of Arts & Sciences

(1) Impact on Faculty Council

- Will effect faculty council – IPS will remain same, except dean will oversee program – 10 full time faculty coming on board – they get more resources in a larger organization
- We need to have IPS representatives on Faculty Council – someone volunteered – need to have separate election for it - will be added to humanities roster
- Would still be an institute –
- Concern about IPS faculty – have they been consulted – they have – Peter Jackson met with his faculty and staff about it – then met with Peter Schrader and Jackson and them and they seem to like that idea
- Current structure will remain – current interim dean will be director and then associate dean with associate directors and assistant dean will have assistant director title

Yes - 18

No - 0

Abstain – 0

Motion carries

5) Committee Reports

a) Chair, Faculty Affairs

- Maribeth is taking over for Laura – met yesterday – discussed two issues – collecting info on minor faculty admin positions – document policies about compensation, when last updated – need two more units to respond – have noted disparities across units – want to create timeline to bring forth for what we want out of this – push for transparency across University – job descriptions, who is doing them and compensation
- Concern from faculty member that emeriti pay should be incorporated into conversation – is about revisiting policies every few years and moving towards transparency
- Gave feedback and reviewed faculty evaluation slides created by Twyla – how to frame and use these evaluations
- All of these projects started last year, but there has been some progress made – FA can start with strong agenda and resources for next year

b) Chair, Academic Affairs

i) Action Items:

(1) Add Leave of Absence Policy to Academic Catalog

- Tightened up language that was already present and then added to Academic Catalog
- Committee recommends
- Discussion – N/A

Yes – 17

No - 0

Abstain – 0

Motion carries

(2) Update Academic Misconduct Policy to include AI

- Focused on these need to be clarified – streamlining process, setting deadlines, noting can be consequence for using AI (depending on professor's policy)
- Unanimous in committee
- Discussion: is there room for use of AI in assignments – yes, it is up to the professor – when used without permission penalty is up to instructor

Yes – 17

No - 0

Abstain – 0

Motion carries

c) Chair, Service & Communications

i) Election

- Are ahead of schedule for election!
- All new members will be invited to April meeting
- Will send out in newsletter on who are new members – sent individual emails to election winners
- Unit that didn't have a choice was ISCPS – only sixteen faculty
- Currently empty seats – policy – next runner up is seated – get through the list then we are desperately searching for someone
- Meghan, Ray and Abigail worked on this – Thank you!
- Were not enough nominees
- Should have every seat filled for next year!!!!!!

ii) Faculty Member of the Year

- N/A – working on this and figuring out last detail – flyers and email going live next week or so

d) Chair, Handbook

- Received final versions of handbook that includes stuff we asked for – had to do a couple of rounds of ask
- Update to amendments policy – got this to a better place – has improved written feedback greatly!
- NTT – said were to assist Tenured faculty – dumped it
- Agreements to discuss more for subsequent revisions of handbook
- Two additional policies – update to definition and disciplinary - when hired in program with grad students are immediately considered graduate faculty
- Extreme when grad faculty not doing their thing, how are they removed – we got the one change we asked for
- Consensual relationships with undergraduate students – DO NOT DO THIS! – is language concerning graduate students, can do this so long as no direct supervision
- Have to approve new version of handbook before goes to BoT – meet during finals week and need approved documents in by April 10th – no section edits – need to vote on complete handbook – meeting needs to be open to all faculty so they need access to track changes – would need to let people understand that this is not about editing – they are there for sake of transparency

- Amendments and approvals changes – can use time to gather info for later revisions
 - Graduate policy will be out by end of week
 - Handbook will be sent out later today or tomorrow
- 6) Old Business
- a) May Meeting
- Monday May 6th most likely
- 7) New Business
- Invited president and may show up
- 8) Adjournment: 4:28PM