

## Faculty Senate meeting

10 September 2021

Senators in Attendance: Rex Strange, Brandon Field, Matt Hanka, Curt Gilstrap, Sima Fortsch, Stephanie Young, Chuck Conaway, Michael Strezewski, Jessica Mason, Marilyn Ostendorf, Mary Doerner, Kimberly Delaney, Xavia Harrington-Chate, Laura Bernhardt.

Other Attendees: Shelly Blunt, Kyle Mara, Oana Popescu-Sandu, Guoyuan Huang.

- Held via Zoom meeting. Called to order 2:05 pm
- Approval of minutes from 30 April 2021 and 27 August 2021
  - Minutes from 30 April 2021 approved with three abstentions.
  - Minutes from 27 August 2021 approved unanimously.
- Chair's Report:
  - Senate subcommittee updates from Rex:
    - Curriculum Committee – Matt Hanka will be chair for the term
    - Faculty and Academic Affairs – Thomas Weber has volunteered to call the committee together
    - Assessment Committee – some question whether to include the Core 39 Assessment Director, Bartell Berg, in the discussions. Asking the committee to discuss that.
    - Economic Benefits Committee – I have not yet heard back from them
    - Faculty Awards Committee - I have not heard back from them.
    - Rex still needs to contact the Student Affairs Committee
    - Honorary Degree Committee Nominations: Daniel Bauer has been nominated and was approved by acclamation. (Rex will contact him to let him know.)
  - Core39 Committee vs Core Council (which is the appropriate name?)
    - Discussion with Kenny Purcell regarding the name, description, and membership of the committee.
    - Handbook states that the ninth voting member of the committee is the core director (but only votes to break a tie).
    - The membership of the UCC Council included a student member (chosen by SGA ), but this seems to have been dropped without comment...
  - The Romain College of Business is still one senator short for Faculty Senate. Perhaps one of the senators will mention that another representative might be elected sooner rather than later.
- Provost's Report, from Shelly Blunt:
  - Dr. Khayum wanted to pass along the resolutions that were approved by Graduate Council on Wednesday. The first was the one about allowing online

- graduate courses to be held on the event of campus closed due to inclement weather, and the second was to allow graduate courses to be held during Assessment Day. He will be considering those resolutions in the near future.
- A search for a new Dean of LA is underway. Dean White will be retiring, so a search will be ongoing for her.
  - Will be offering Major as Home grants for the Departments to use as a retention tool to connect students to their programs.
  - The Dean of Students Office has been very busy with contact tracing. IT has been able to create a report that tells us how many students are in quarantine on any given day and what classes are affected. 88% of the courses that are impacted only had a single student, indicating that we are not seeing clusters in particular programs or classes. These data will be used to determine if classes may need to be moved on line, or other things that needs to happen. There has been a larger impact this fall than there was last fall. The community numbers are larger this fall as well.
- Charge 21\_07: Senate promotion of vaccination efforts
    - People want Faculty Senate to make a statement of support for vaccination.
    - Charge was approved with one abstention. Kim will work up a statement for next meeting.
  - Charge 21\_08: Faculty representation in budget committees
    - This charge asks that we close Charge 2020.34, which went sort of nowhere, and request that Faculty Senate is allowed to elect two representatives to the Steering Committee that is being created to examine the University budget operations in academic and non-academic units, and be allowed to elect representatives to all the appropriate subcommittees.
    - The Provost's discussion of the Steering Committee last meeting strongly implied that little-to-no faculty input would solicited in the budget discussions.
    - Whoever is elected should be able and willing to make suggestions to the greater committees.
    - Especially representation to the Steering Committee could be important.
    - From discussion, the actions that should be taken is that the Faculty Senate Chair should present our request to the Provost and ask him to articulate his response to the greater meeting. The Faculty Senate Chair should also inform the President's Council of our request.
    - The charge was approved unanimously.
  - Charge 21\_09: Equity for adjunct instructors
    - Charge requests a variety of changes to policies around adjunct instructors.
    - The motion was proposed that a request be sent to the Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee to identify the academic courses that may be overusing

- adjunct instructors so that we will be able to request that money for full time faculty be appropriated to those areas.
- The motion was approved with one objection.
  - The request was made to distribute this charge to the Council of Chairs as well. Rex will suggest to the Faculty and Academic Affairs committee that the Council of Chairs be used as a resource.
  - The original charge was voted on and rejected with two abstentions.
  - Charge 21\_10: Per diem rates
    - The charge brings the perennial suggestion to increase the *per diem* rate to the GSA rate.
    - The charge was voted to be sent to the Economic Benefits Committee unanimously.
  - Next meeting: 24 September, 2pm.
  - Adjourned at 3:45 pm.

Minutes recorded by Brandon Field, secretary.