Governing Faculty Draft Minutes of March 13, 2018- approved April 6, 2018

Location: 111 FH

Present: M. Doyle (LIB), S. Wandmacher (PHL), J. Haefner (SON), S. Roach (ENG), J. Schirmer (ENG), D.J. Trela (FOR), M. Paroske (COM), B. Schrader (COM), G. Gemeda (AFS), B. Dabney (SON), A. Goldberg (PT), C. Tiernan (PT), J. Alvey (ANT/WGS), C. Miller (SOM), A. Kahl-Smith (SACJ), K. Bender (SACJ), M. Wolverton (LIB), H. Laube (SACJ), S. Uludag (CSEP), G. Laurence (SOM), L. Friesen (LIB), Q. Mazumder (CSEP), J. Sanders (BIO), A. Lutzker (ECN), J. Lawand (FOR)

Guests:

Meeting brought into session at 1:48pm

Minutes from February 2, 2018- approved with no corrections.

Authority for Flint Governance- R. Alfaro shared PowerPoint outlining the conversation Faculty Council has had, and the three options currently being explored.

1. Status quo-do nothing
2. Seek authority from Senate Assembly
3. Seek authority from Regents

Topics raised in conversation:

- Would attempting to get authority cause issues with the Regents recognition of “one faculty”?
- There are multiple benefits from being one faculty which should be taken into consideration. i.e. “homeless” faculty finding homes in Ann Arbor if their program is shut down, or
- Should our faculty try to press the issue and gain the 9-10 seats in the Senate Assembly that the Regents Bylaws would allow us to have?
- Any further attempt to gain seats in Ann Arbor could open us up to more interference from Ann Arbor.
- Though we have not had issues thus far, solving the authority issue is important to prevent issues in the future.
- Line of communication may be a different issue from authority. Although we currently report directly to the regents through our Chancellor might we send communications directly if we make a resolution and want to share it with the Regents?
- Option 2 or 3 are just different ways of formalizing the status quo. Option 2 might be the easier path.
- Getting additional 9-10 seats in Senate Assembly might be a hard sell to Ann Arbor, with the additional seats that Dearborn would require.
R. Alfaro reported that Faculty Council leadership has a conference call scheduled with the Office of General Council immediately after this meeting in which he intended to ask these questions, and get the input of the pros and cons of the various options, or other options we hadn’t considered. He would also ask that they review our current Code to make sure it is in compliance with the Regents Bylaws.

The intention of Faculty Council is to release a straw poll once we have all the pros and cons of the options for input from the faculty.

**Administrator Surveys** - R. Alfaro reported that the main concerns with the results of the administrator surveys were with the Chancellor and the VC for Inclusion and Student Life. The Chancellor has begun a search for the VC for Inclusion and Student Life position to replace Barbara Avery. Main takeaway from her survey was that people didn’t know who she was. Faculty will make it clear that they would like more interaction with her replacement.

Concerns were raised about several issues related to the Chancellor’s survey results:

- The negative responses were not made from a small group of faculty.
- The response was high, but could and should have been higher
- The main issues which received the most negative scores are very concerning, i.e. ethics, respect, transparency, finances.
- With these results, combined with the results of the previous survey and the Climate Study, faculty need to make a statement before reappointment

Suggestions for surveys going forward:

- Include the response rate per unit for each question, so the person being surveyed can tell if there are units where they need to make more of an effort to connect.
- Stagger the surveys throughout the year so that people don’t receive so many all at one time. It may make response rate go up.
- Faculty Council should not survey itself and the process should be formalized in the Code.

**Matters Arising** - E. Newberry demonstrated the new governance website where minutes, agendas, reports, and survey results are now being stored.

**Meeting adjourned at 3pm**

Respectfully submitted
Emily Newberry- Secretary/Chair-Elect