Approved Minutes from the April 05, 2017 Faculty Council.


Absent: S. Selig. S. Banerjee.

Guests: J. Lawand (AAUP representative.)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am.

Minutes of March 22 were approved as submitted.

AAUP representative J. Lawand gave a summary of their activities for the year. She indicated as a positive exercise the external review of faculty governance. They conducted two workshops on governance, and although attendance was not great, it was good to have attendance and support from several deans. S. Lippert added that all the materials of the workshop are posted in the website. As future activities, they want to have half day activities and professional developments with keynote speakers. A Faculty Enrichment day is possible coming in May. J. Lawand asked FC to focus on faculty well-being next year, especially regarding to fair due process for faculty matters through the Human Resources Office. It was suggested we have an open conversation with HR about policies and procedures. A. Dorfman suggested we go deeper into the real causes of the problem of well-being of the faculty, with the hope that other problems will be corrected with a better functioning of the faculty.

J. Lawand left at 9:30am

Faculty Council elected Mihai Burzo as replacement for one semester position in the Undergraduate Admissions Committee.

C. Douglas motioned to revise the task force charge in response to a faculty member comment. Motion passed, and item 3 on the charge will read: “Based on the findings of #1 and #2, propose changes leading to the overall revision of the Faculty Code.”

Faculty Council selected Clement Chen as the SOM representative to the Governing Faculty Task Force.

The ballot for the code changes will be send to the faculty by the end of this week. Several issues were suggested starting next year: to have members of the faculty council check the ballots before it is distributed to faculty, to have informal meetings with faculty for open discussion, and to communicate the schedule of the governing faculty meetings at the beginning of the year.

C. Douglas mentioned that he will meet with the Chancellor and Provost next week. S. Lippert requested to ask the Chancellor about the actual deficit numbers. T. Wrobel started a discussion about the changes in the role of the professors in relation to the level of engagement with the administrative functions of the university. A lively discussion ensued on the role and expectations of faculty in the university, and how service might be diminishing our primary work as academicians.
J. Furman brought for discussion the last email from the registrar to the students graduating this winter semester. There seems to be a discrepancy between the time faculty requires completion of work versus the date the registrar indicates. She will bring this issue to AAAC.

C. Douglas summarized the grievance procedures proposed recommendation. He will talk to Human Resources to see how they can accommodate to this new procedure. C. Douglas will revise the language following UM-Dearborn document and circulate it to FC.

J. Furman (AAAC) reported that K. Arnould came to the meeting to discuss the audit on grade changes. We are out of compliance and measures will need to be taken.

S. Lippert (CAC/BSP), mentioned they are considering faculty salary package, as well as different scenarios on different salaries for staff, faculty, instructional units, etc. There was a consensus that a positive raise for everyone is necessary to maintain morale across campus.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45am.

Respectfully submitted,
Ricardo Alfaro
Secretary Faculty Council