Members Present: Ricardo Alfaro, Jan Furman, Douglas Knerr, Dan Lair, Greg Laurence (Chair), Marilyn McFarland, Tamim Reza, and Jie Song

Absent: Aviva Dorfman

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chair Greg Laurence.

Approval of Minutes – September 15, 2016 ◄ A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of September 15, 2016, as written. Motion carried.

2018-2019 Academic Calendar ◄ Much discussion took place regarding many issues centering on student and faculty needs, the final examination schedule, and commencement. Three options were discussed thoroughly:

Fall Semester 2018 –

- Leaving the proposed 2018-19 calendar as is which duplicates Ann Arbor.
- Eliminating the two-day Fall Study Break, adding Wednesday to the Thanksgiving Recess, and ending the Fall Semester one day early.
- Eliminating the two-day Fall Study Break, and adding Tuesday and Wednesday to the Thanksgiving Recess, ending the semester as indicated in the proposal.

Consensus Regarding Fall Semester 2018 –

Start of the Fall Semester on Tuesday, September 4, eliminate the two-day Fall Study Break, add Wednesday to the Thanksgiving Recess, making the last day of instruction being Monday, December 10. Only have one study day, which would be Tuesday, December 11, and Wednesday – Saturday (December 12-15) and Monday-Tuesday (December 17-18) would be final exam days. Under this schedule, there would still be 67 instructional days.

Winter Semester 2019 –

Similar discussion took place regarding the Winter Semester.

Consensus Regarding Winter Semester 2019 –

Start of the Winter Semester on Monday, January 7 (rather than Wednesday the 9th), making the last instructional day, Friday, April 19. One Study Day would be Saturday, April 20, with Final Exams Monday, April 22 through Saturday, April 27.

AAAC is requesting whether the commencement dates have to coincide with Ann Arbor’s. They would also like to examine the possibility of reducing the number of days for final exams. Discussion regarding the Spring and Summer terms were tabled for the next meeting.
**Provost Report ►** The Provost thanked members for providing feedback regarding organizational suggestions and asked those who were not able to respond yet to submit their ideas within the month.

The Provost indicated that the FYE Committee is meeting and proceeding with other discussions. He indicated that in terms of GECC, he proposes that Chris Douglas (Chair/Faculty Council), Greg Laurence (Chair/AAAC), Cathy Miller (Chair of CAC/BSP) and he meet to develop core questions of General Education and asked if that would be agreeable with AAAC. There was total consensus that that would be a great start.

He reported that a cohesive approach to enrollment management is a priority and that is how he would like to move forward with the ultimate goal of ROI (Return on Investment) for our students. He stressed that the academic units and enrollment management have to be working together on the same plan. He mentioned that they just met with the school counselors group and are being very intentional in partnering with each of them. He announced that he has been working with the Deans to identify 6-7 core programs that have the potential of being revised to total online programs with the intent of being able to recruit in a much broader area.

He provided an update of the three task forces in place: Advising; Reappointment, Tenure and Promotion Standards; and Governance. To date Advising has convened and plan future meetings; there is still a little bit of leg work before the other two committees will be ready. Some indicated that faculty would like to receive an update and confirmation of the make-up of the other two committees.

The Provost concluded by asking members to review the draft Strategic Planning Process document and provide him their feedback.

**Faculty Council Report ►** Jan reported that Faculty Council had an additional meeting yesterday with conversation centering on the chancellor survey. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an opportunity to go over the kinds of questions that will be raised in the Governing Faculty Meeting coming up yet this month; however, before that is scheduled, they are waiting for the results of the Motion raised in the last meeting.

Also, a request was made to Adam Lutzker, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee, from the *The Detroit Free Press* wanting to talk to him regarding faculty governance. Faculty felt that a meeting should be scheduled; however, they asked Adam to refer *The Detroit Free Press* to Faculty Council for a response.

Tamim requested that a future agenda item include a discussion about faculty providing their syllabus two weeks in advance of classes; AAAC were very receptive to adding that for a future item.

Agenda Items 5, 6, and 7 were tabled for the next meeting.

Because the next meeting is scheduled on the same day of the Regents October Meeting held here on campus, the next AAAC Meeting will change to the following Thursday, October 27, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

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**CHANGE IN DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Thursday, October 27 – 1:00 p.m.**

*(Rather than Thursday, October 20)*

**Graduate Programs Conference Room (215 Thompson)**