Faculty Council - Minutes of March 13, 2019

Location: 320 TL (Library Director’s Conference Room)

Present: Ricardo Alfaro (Past Chair), Mickey Doyle, Nick Kingsley (AAAC), Adam Lutzker, Cathy Miller (CAC/BSP), Emily Newberry (Chair), James Schirmer (Secretary/Chair Elect), Suzanne Selig, DJ Trela

Absent: Sy Banerjee, Aviva Dorfman, Judy Haefner

Guests: Daniel Birchok, Jacob Lederman

Meeting brought into session at 9:05am

1U
Faculty Council welcomed Daniel Birchok and Jacob Lederman to discuss 1U, a campaign to increase funding to the University of Michigan’s Flint and Dearborn campuses. D. Birchok and J. Lederman shared that state-allocated funds per student at Flint and Dearborn are less than half of what Ann Arbor receives. Among the top asks to be made by 1U before the UM Board of Regents and the state of Michigan is that both agree to allocate substantially more funding to Flint and Dearborn. Such an allocation would enable, among other items, salary parity for LEOs, funding for legal/medical services, study abroad programs, and diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives. D. Birchok also invited Faculty Council members to join the campaign at BIT.LY/1umich.

R. Alfaro, A. Lutzker, S. Selig, and DJ Trela discussed the issue of autonomy as related to a potential increase in funding. R. Alfaro suggested pursuing 1U with caution as Ann Arbor might want more say in how state funding is distributed on the Flint campus. A. Lutzker noted Flint’s size relative to Ann Arbor. S. Selig appreciated the sensitivity of the issue of autonomy, noting the nature of departmental autonomy in CAS and the unlikelihood of Ann Arbor wanting that level of control. DJ Trela suggested that, on the budgetary side, there is already intrusiveness and that Flint’s autonomy is negotiated.

J. Lederman stressed that the question of autonomy is important and worth addressing from multiple angles. J. Lederman also emphasized the need to leverage more resources, specifically related to how Ann Arbor is not catering to all of UM’s students. D. Birchok observed that 1U is the start of a long process, but part of its focus also involves highlighting the uniqueness of Flint and Dearborn.
Faculty Council welcomed Greg Laurence and Sarah Lippert to discuss resolutions on due process and governance at all levels and SPGs 601.22 and 601.38. The resolution on due process calls for a meaningful appeal process regarding Title IX complaints. The resolution on governance at all levels does not call for a new policy, but does involve gathering policy statements across the three UM campuses to ensure that basic standards of transparency and purview apply.

S. Lippert explained the concerns of some faculty regarding 601.38 as overly intrusive and that this SPG was released without faculty consultation. S. Lippert also suggested the latter occurred with 601.22 as well and that it also encourages a reporting mentality.

N. Kingsley asked if 601.38 is well aligned with policies for other public employees. S. Lippert agreed to take that question to SACUA.

DJ Trela distinguished between the two SPGs, noting how 601.38 is problematic due to how felony charges are made while 601.22 may be necessary to protect students. S. Lippert noted that at issue is the broad definition of 601.22 may allow for misinterpretation, if not possible abuse. G. Laurence observed the differences between Ann Arbor and Flint/Dearborn student bodies and what interactions may be more likely. DJ Trela reiterated that what may be lost in discussions of appropriate faculty consultation and other concerns is the persistent vulnerability of students to sexual misconduct.

A. Lutzker requested an update on the Tri Campus Committee. S. Lippert shared the possibility of a resolution regarding professional development for faculty as made available and accessible for all three campuses.

Minutes of February 27 approved as amended

Meeting brought into executive session at 10:14am for review of administrators’ evaluations

Meeting returned to regular session at 10:54am

March 22 governing faculty meeting
Faculty Council discussed likely and possible agenda items, including 1U and SACUA updates as well as a report on general education from GECC chair Jamile
Lawand. E. Newberry will invite Interim Provost Susan Alcock to discuss the two new Associate Provost positions.

E. Newberry will also circulate code change language. S. Selig asked if President Schlissel would like to be evaluated by Flint this year. Faculty Council also speculated on the future of general education.

Meeting adjourned at 11:02am