

## Faculty Senate Mini Retreat

September 24, 2015

102 McKenna Hall

Attendance: Matthew Capdevielle, Xavier Creary, John Gaski, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Michael Hemler, Michael Kirsch, Hai Lin, Adam Martin, Paul McDowell, Paul McGinn, Hildegund Muller, Walter Nicgorski, Christopher Pratt, Jeanne Romero-Severson, Christopher Shields, John Stamper, Marsha Stevenson, Cheri Smith, Bryant Vande Kolk, Sandra Vera-Muñoz ,

Greetings by Dr. Romero- Severson

Introductions

1. Dr. Mary Anne McDowell -Faculty Governance of the University of Notre Dame
  - Faculty Governance
    - Reporting structures
    - Who occupies the current administrative positions
  - The role of the Faculty Senate does have right of Agenda
    - Right of Agenda
    - Authority is suasory not legislative
    - Suasion requires time
  - Faculty Senate function
  - 21% of the University Budget is for Faculty salary
    - Lower than our peers
  - Comparative governance study
  - ND is Bicameral
    - Administrative, Financial
    - Academic
  - General discussion and suggestions
    - Invite JAG to meeting in order to discuss how the Budget works
    - Promote more effective communication of the budgeting process
2. Past Senate Accomplishments
  - Experienced members Nasir Ghiaseddin and John Gaski to shared past successes and why they succeeded
    - Nasir Ghiaseddin: summary salary-ND contribution to retirement
      - Why did this succeed?
      - ND Leadership change
      - Benefit Committee did three things
        - Persistence with the request
        - Consistency in the request

- Patience in pursuing the request
  - John Gaski: Student Affairs
    - Student evaluations of Courses
    - Multiple item evaluation
    - Similar message: persistence, persistence, persistence
- 3. Current Impressions of the Senate's role
- 4. Reimagining how we do things
  - Have every department represented
  - Repackage membership in a positive light
    - Discussion on tenured vs. nontenured faculty
  - Get closer to money decisions
  - Be less reactive and more proactive
  - - Get a Senator representative on major Ad committees
- 5. Suggested Agenda Items
  - CIFS – Ad Hoc Committee on the Evaluation of teaching already formed
    - Effects all faculty
    - Important for promotions
      - Someone from the Faculty Senate should be on the committee
    - Evaluations
      - Provost thought faculty had a problem with tool
        - People not stressed by tools
        - Problem is how the tool is used
        - There appears to be lack of understanding on how to interpret these numbers and what these numbers represent.
  - Insurance for Grad Students
    - Why does University not insure the graduate students in the same way as faculty and staff?
    - What is the basis for these decisions?
    - Is it true that “other universities” are not insuring their students?
    - Our current policy is not socially responsible
  - Faculty Indemnification-
    - Document is available on the Risk Management and Safety Website
  - Joyce award for excellence in undergraduate teaching
    - Would like the senate to develop better approach for selection
  - Faculty lecturers from the ACC exchange program
- 6. Core Curriculum Revision (Top priority)
  - What role do we want to have?
  - How do we accomplish this?
- 7. Web site content
  - Update and provide format similar to official university web sites

- Useful for senate and groups/committees
  - Pictures/ department/emails
  - Schedule
  - agenda
  - Meeting minutes
    - Links Proactive on Surveys for faculty
    - Find a collective voice instead of just the loudest
    - Stop guessing what faculty care about and find out