

Minutes for Notre Dame Faculty Senate Meeting
October 6, 2015
Rm. 140 DeBartolo

Attendees: Matthew Capdevielle, Mark Caprio, Xavier Creary, Meredith Doellman, Mary Frandsen, David Galvin, John Gaski, David Gasperetti, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Michael Hemler, Byung-Joo Lee, Adam Martin, Mary Ann McDowell, Paul McDowell, , Paul McGinn, Michael Mogavero, Hildegun Müller, Walter Nicgorski, Chris Pratt, Joe Urbany, Sandra Vera-Muñoz, Jeanne Romero-Severson, Nidia Ruelas, Christopher Shields, Joshua Shrout, Anna Simon, Cheri Smith, Marsha Stevenson, Meng Wang, Sophie White, Richard Williams, Shauna Williams, Xiaoshan Yang

Excused: Christopher Chowrimootoo, Michael Kirsch, Hai Lin, Samir Younes

1. Opening Prayer
2. Minutes of the September 1, 2015 meeting were approved.
3. Chairs remarks—
 - a. Core curriculum committee draft recommendations – the core curriculum committee is almost done with a draft recommendation. It may be available before the end of the month. After it is available Jeanne Romero-Severson will invite John McGreevy to present the recommendations to the Senate.
 - b. CIFs process – no action on CIF revisions so far
 - c. Faculty Senate web page revisions update – The senate office had waded through site ownership issues and is now in a position to start revising the main components of the Senate site. This will be an ongoing effort throughout the semester.
 - d. Academic integrity - Jeanne Romero-Severson has been asked to be on an academic integrity committee. She has not been advised yet as to exactly what it involves.
 - e. ACC Scholars selection. – One of the ACC Scholars (Rob Dunn- NC State) was already invited by the biology department. Discussion ended with the Academic Affairs committee agreeing to recommend another invitee after their meeting this evening.
 - f. Board of Trustee meeting- Jeanne Romero-Severson will give a presentation at their mid-October meeting.
 - g. Follow-up on Mary Ann McDowell's presentation at Senate retreat – Senators were encouraged to discuss the leadership slides at their respective department meetings. A quick hand count revealed only a small number of department chairs have asked for a Faculty Senate update at their department meetings.
4. Old business—
 - a. Campus Life Council representatives were identified. David Galvin (Mathematics) will continue from last year. Cheri Smith (Library) will also represent the Senate on the CLC.
 - b. Marsha Stevenson and Walt Nicgorski are the Bookstore Committee representatives.
 - c. The subject of the provost coming to Senate meetings was discussed. There was general sentiment that we would welcome him, but it was thought that for delicate topics it would be better to not have the provost as some untenured faculty might be reluctant to

speak openly. The Senate will provide the provost's office with the dates of future meetings and he can choose when he might be able to attend. The senate will collect questions ahead of time to provide the provost the general topics which it is desired that he address. The offer was also made for the director of libraries to come to a meeting to update the faculty on changes in the libraries. The Senate will add her to the list of potential invitees.

5. Denise Murphy spoke about changes to the benefits program in the coming year. The handouts she provided cover all of the topics. The biggest changes are a new high deductible health plan, consolidation of the HMO plans, an increase in the orthodontia maximum, a shift to a new drug prescription benefit manager (Optum Rx), and the availability of an online health cost comparison tool (CastLight). She also reviewed the ND Wellness Center and the upcoming health care screenings. Questions were asked about the possibility of the 'cadillac tax' in 2018 (... probably won't happen as scheduled).
6. Committee Reports—
 - a. Academic Affairs – They nominated Robin Fleming, a medievalist from Boston College as the ACC scholar for the coming year. They will contact the Medieval Institute to handle the visit. They also began discussions on whether the honorary degree to Bill Cosby should be revoked. They also began discussions on the selection process for the Joyce teaching award.
 - b. Administrative Affairs – they discussed the website redesign. They are taking ideas for site content under consideration.
 - c. Benefits – they will look into whether there is a rumored freeze on the program to purchase parking spaces before going forward with a petition about the current parking situation.
 - d. Student Affairs – John Gaski presented a set of slides on how psychometric researchers try to validate unobservables, which is relevant to the topic of the validity of CIFs.
7. New Business—
 - a. Rich Williams agreed to serve on the committee looking into the viability of the Chicago shuttle bus.
 - b. The topic of CIFs will be assigned to a committee at the next meeting.
 - c. Jeanne Romero-Severson will collect comments on the Keough Master's proposal and forward them to the proposers to provide senate feedback.
 - d. After the Core curriculum committee provides its proposal draft she will invite Dean McGreevy to visit the Senate.

Adjournment was at 8:20pm

Respectfully submitted,

Paul McGinn
Chemical and Biomolecular Engr.
Co-Secretary