

Minutes of Notre Dame Faculty Senate Meeting
February 2, 2016
DeBartolo Room 141

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

Excused: Christopher Chowrimootoo, Samir Younes

Absent:, David Thomas

Called to order at 6:00 pm

1. Opening prayer offered by Jeanne Romero-Severson, Chair
2. The minutes of the December 1, 2015 meeting were approved
3. Chair's remarks (Jeanne Romero-Severson)
 - a. Consolidated Appeals process update

Jeanne received lots of comments. She brought these to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Academic Council. Based upon this input they will seek further information from the Associate provost (Maura Ryan) to answer several questions. These include, "What is the frequency of the frese appeal being used?", "How many times did it result in a tenure decision reversal?" Maura Ryan will report back with answers.

- b. CIF committee update (Teaching Effectiveness Committee)

The committee will meet approximately every 2 weeks until the end of the year. They have had active discussions about how to make effective use of CIF numbers. Discussions will continue and Jeanne will keep the Senate apprised.

- c. University's Traffic & Parking Appeals Board- we have a Faculty representative from the library

2. Mary Ann McDowell presented a preliminary view of the new faculty senate website. Log-in information will be sent to senators to preview it and provide suggestions for additional content, help correct errors, etc. She has already shown print-outs to individuals in the provost's office. It will probably go live in 2-3 weeks.

3. Judith Fox presented on the Ad hoc Committee on Faculty Governance. The Faculty Affairs committee of the Academic council proposed that the committee consist of nine members, to be elected from Arts and Letters, Architecture, Business, Engineering, Law, Libraries, Research, Science, and Special Professional faculty. Some of the committee members were in attendance, including some who are also members of the faculty senate. A full list of the committee membership is here:
http://provost.nd.edu/assets/189606/ad_hoc_committee_on_faculty_governance_members.pdf

4. The committee's charge is "to survey systematically faculty opinion on the state of faculty governance at Notre Dame; outline and clarify current mechanisms of faculty governance; establish criteria to determine those issues that fall under the purview of faculty governance; ascertain whether there are any areas of disagreement between senior administrators and faculty members on the role of the faculty governance; and, based upon all its findings, offer recommendations for enhancing faculty governance. The focus of the committee will be on faculty governance at the central university level rather than at the college or department level

The website related to the committee is here:

<http://provost.nd.edu/committees/ad-hoc-committee-on-faculty-governance/>

The committee is planning a survey and town hall meetings to get an idea of faculty concerns. She asked if it would be useful to show up at departmental faculty meetings for discussion. Questions asked whether the committee "has teeth" - it appears they will only make recommendations. It is recognized the committee has to convince people this process will lead somewhere. It was remarked that faculty hope to get some feedback on what will happen to their

recommendations. It was suggested the committee find a way to probe faculty feelings on the “secrecy” of decision making. Other topics included whether it would be useful to get institutional accountability of major academic officers, e.g. have the provost address the faculty once a year. Can the faculty get a representative to sit in on discussions concerning university budgeting? The issue was raised on whether we want/need two faculty bodies (Academic Council and Faculty Senate).

5. Old business

6. Committee Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – there is a resolution from the A&L college council asking for more participation in ND International (NDI). The resolution from the college council wants more input on policies and structure of NDI. They have agreed to solicit questions concerning the resolution from committee members. These will be forwarded to the A&L College Council. The resolution will be sent out to the full Senate. It was also reported that the Academic Council is discussing who can serve as a thesis advisor/ director. The idea is to better formalize the use of non-ND people as co-directors/advisors.
- b. Administrative Affairs – discussed new web site; submitted suggestions to Mary Ann McDowell
- c. Benefits – discussed feedback on the new drug Rx company (OptumRx). Some glitches have been reported in transitioning from the old system to the new one. HR knows of the issues and is working on correcting the problems. The committee will meet with HR in the next couple of weeks.
- d. Student Affairs – discussed CIF’s and honor code. In one month they may have ready a resolution for the full senate.

7. New Business

- a. New website – see point 2 above
- b. There will be a request to follow that a faculty senate representative come from the faculty of the new Keough School of Global Affairs

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

9. The Next Regular Meeting will be at 6:00 pm, Tuesday, March 1, 2016 ; 141
DBRT

Respectfully submitted,

Paul McGinn
Professor of Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering
Co-Secretary