

Academic Senate Meeting, September 19, 2012

Minutes

66 attendees

Council Members: Larry Suva, Steve Post, Tom Kelly, Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow, Dana Gaddy, Jerry Ware, Bill Culp, Howard Hendrickson, Paul Wendel, Ilias Kavouras, Adam Brown, Julia Goodwin, Rebecca Patterson, Elizabeth Bard, Feifei Wei, Phil Breen

COM: Paul Hermonat, Paula Roberson, Y. Lucy Liu, Galen Wenger, Wayne Gray, KI Varughese, Mike Owens, Maha Mahadervan, James Suen, Ginell Post, Josh Bornhorst, Wayne Wahls, Stephen Erickson, Sam Mackintosh, Tom Badger, Alan Diekman, Jack Hinson, Charles Feild, Patty Wight, Linda Williams, Mike Jennings, William Greenfield, Ralph Kodell, Kevin Phelan, Stewart MacLeod, Reha Celikel, Neriman Gokden, Michael Borrelli, Sung Rhee, David Davies, Claude Barnes, Michael Soulsby, Piotr Zimmiak, Dianne Skinner, Roy Morello, Ozlem Tulunay-Ugur, Reza Hakkak, Philip Palade, Richard Nicolas, Christian Ceeren

CON: Lorraine Frasier, Seonghkum Heo, Carol Enderliu, Jean McSweeny

COP: Randy Haun, Grazyna Nowak

CPH: Barbara Fuhrman

Academic Affairs: Steve Boone, Renal Sheffer (library), Jan Hart

New volunteer help for Committees:

Faculty Affairs: Ilias Kavouras, Phil Palade

Research: Barbara Fuhrman

1. The Chair, Larry Suva, called the meeting to order.
2. Dr. Suva presented a short slide show that introduced the new council members (can be found on the UAMS Senate webpage <http://academicsenate.uams.edu/officers/>)
3. He also discussed the Senate Financial Report which receives \$4890 from the Chancellor each year. The Senate pays 5% of Deneshia Morgan's salary in return for sending out weekly reminders of seminars occurring campus wide. The remaining \$2675 is to be used at the Senate's discretion. Dr. Suva did raise the question on whether there use of funds could be perceived as a 'conflict of interest'.

4. It was noted that re-vitalization is needed with several Senate Committees, especially with regard to new Chairpersons needed for the Faculty Affairs and Clinical Affairs. There were signup sheets in the room for faculty to help with these important duties. Michael Borrelli will be the new Research Committee Chair.
5. Dr. Suva then introduced Dr. Larry Cornett to talk about the use of Core Facilities on campus. Dr. Cornett stated that there are 18 core facilities on campus and that the COM spent 3.1 million dollars last year to support these facilities. The TRI, via Dr. Philip Mayeux, does an excellent job in 'reviewing' with annual reviews of each core to determine the 'net-worth of each core'. This review process is used to justify the continued support of each core by the COM. It was also clearly stated that, "All cores are assessable to all faculty across campus-not just COM faculty. Individual cores may set up priorities for access, but they are not dictated by the COM." It was suggested that a single link on the UAMS homepage for "Core Facilities" is being worked on to have a single source to find and access them. Dr. Cornett also mentioned that the COM supports an animal cage rate subsidy for all investigators, regardless of their College affiliation. Dr. Cornett announced that UAMS funding was up last year at \$94M, which is a record. However, it was noted that individual investigator funding is very tight, and Dr. Cornett indicated that bridging funds for investigators are not available at a campus level, and the challenge to help PIs is up to the individual Colleges. Finally, when asked how the Senate can help with Dr. Cornett's mission to support research on campus, he requested that the Faculty continue to remind everyone on campus that Research is part of this UAMS Academic Health Center, and it is uniquely important to our institution.
6. Dr. Suva introduced Mr. David Miller (Vice Chancellor and CIO of UAMS IT) to talk to the faculty about the prior email problems. The problem has been corrected, but the reason for the problem remains a mystery. Mr. Miller went on to describe many projects that IT is working on including the new Clinical Software (EPIC), the new student information system (Oasis), and the CLARA system which will replace CRIMSON. A question about ARIA was asked and Mr. Miller noted that ARIA will be replaced in Jan/Feb 2013 with CLICK COMMERCE. Mr. Miller acknowledged that a better vehicle was needed to communicate to the faculty about updates.
7. Dr. Suva continued on with agenda item #3 which focused on the New Faculty Exit Survey. During the past year only 18 individual surveys have been completed, despite many more faculty departures. Dr. Suva showed the website and described the process by which faculty need to complete this important survey. It was emphasized that the process is anonymous, and for changes to occur on campus we need to encourage our colleagues to complete this survey, which is available on the Academic Senate website: <http://academicsenate.uams.edu/exit-survey/>
8. A representative of the COM HR office (Mr. Claude Barnes) was generous enough to update the Senate on Catastrophic Leave Policy for Faculty in the COM at UAMS. At the moment there is no such policy, but his department is working diligently to add a policy for faculty as fast as possible (estimate was within a few months). Mr. Barnes was asked if a new COM policy would be expanded to include all UAMS Colleges, and he indicated that the new policy would be shared with other Colleges.

9. Dr. Suva told the Senate to be expecting another New and Improved Faculty Survey via email in the next few months. He also spent a few minutes describing the Academic Affairs re-organization that took place recently. Apparently, the COM was not informed of these changes, while other colleges on campus did get an email describing the changes. The issue highlights the need for better communication between administrative officials and the faculty.
10. The meeting adjourned at 4:55pm.