

## Academic Senate Meeting, October 10, 2013

### Minutes

**Attendees:** There were about 95 faculty who signed the attendance forms at UAMS. The meeting was also broadcasted to ACH, South Central COA, and ASU Mountain Home.

### Agenda:

1. Welcome and updates: Dr. Post discussed the various activities that the Senate has done this year, which included: i) an updated academic senate website (<http://academicssenate.uams.edu>); ii) implementing a new academic senate calendar listing seminars across campus and senate meetings that is available in outlook public folders; iii) numerous requests for faculty to participate in committee work at the request of different administrative groups (e.g., UAMS day care, Export Control, Faculty Lifecycle); and iv) the involvement of the Faculty Affairs Committee in revising the guidelines for the Chancellor Teaching Award. The Senate Council has been meeting at least monthly, and the Senate Committees are also actively meeting. Dr. Post also reiterated that we need more participation across campus, so please sign up to get involved!
2. Description of new Provost position: Chancellor Rahn described the rationale in creating a Provost position (held by Jeanne Heard) at UAMS. This reflects on ongoing reorganization in the leadership to provide more functional integration across campus and to streamline the administrative reporting structure in alignment with campus missions. Dr. Rahn also provided the faculty with an update regarding the effects of the government shutdown on UAMS operations the impact that it may have on faculty who are supported by restricted federal funds.
3. Summary of UAMS Faculty Senate Survey: Dr. Post presented a summary of the main issues within each college identified by the survey. The top 3 concerns were consistent across all colleges on campus and included: 1) teaching is not valued 2) mentoring needs improvement 3) communication across campus is poor. He went on to summarize the issues raised in written comments -the complete survey results are posted on the UAMS Faculty Senate website. Dr. Post also pointed out that the Senate Council and Representatives met with the Chancellor's Cabinet to discuss the major issues identified by the faculty (Communication, Teaching, Mentoring, and Research) and to identify possible actions to address these issues. A goal of this will be to engage the Academic Senate Committees and faculty to help implement these action items.
4. Reports from Committees: Drs. Cesar Compadre (Chair of Faculty Affairs Committee), Michael Borrelli (Chair of Research Committee), and Dana Gaddy (Chair of Communications Committee) outlined the work that the committees has performed this year and summarized the new 2013 goals. These goals are available on the Academic Senate website.
5. AAUP Chapter at UAMS: Dr. Dana Gaddy presented information on the American Association of University Professors (AAUP). She informed the faculty interested in joining AAUP and/or forming a

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new UAMS chapter that there was a sign-up sheet in the back, or to contact Maha Mahadevan ([MahadevanMahendran@uams.edu](mailto:MahadevanMahendran@uams.edu)).

6. Open Discussion: There was about 10 minutes during which Dr. Post addressed several questions from the faculty regarding how information gained from the Senate Committee is communicated to the administration, issues related to IRB/research compliance, faculty departures, and the well-received research showcases.

Meeting adjourned at 5pm.