
Academic Senate Meeting

Minutes from November 6, 2014

Present:

Dana Venhaus, Elizabeth Bard, Howard Hendrickson, Thomas Kelly, Kamala Steele, Dana Bailey, Valerie Howard, Maha Ma, Grover Miller, Roy Morello, Kim Fifer, Guangrong Zheng, Stephen Bowman, Nukhet Aykin-Burns, Jill Johnson, Grazyna Nowak, Giulia Baldini, Sung Rhee, Brian Storrie, Keneshia Bryant, Becky Patterson, Nick Gowen, Samuel Mackintosh, Veneine Cuningkin, Carol Enderlin, Mari Davidson, Philip Palade, Heather Neal-Rice, Larry Suva, Patricia Wight, John C. Mareck, Robert Eoff, Fang Zheng, Alesia Ferguson, Dana Gaddy, Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow, Dan Rahn, Jeanne Heard

Faculty Development and Life Cycle Committee

The Faculty Center is a campus-level “center” that combines campus resources, such as recruitment, promotion and tenure, etc.

- The members of the new performance excellence team for faculty center are:
 - Howell Foster, COP
 - Howard Hendrickson
 - Laura Lamps
 - Tiffany Lepard
 - Christina Pettey
 - Jeff Risinger
 - Jan Shorey
 - Laura Smith-Olinde
 - With more to be added

Projects “in the works include mentoring, retirement planning, and HR engagement (more than in the past).

Campus Raises

- Staff across the campus received raises, both unclassified and classified.
- There is insufficient funding to give raises to all faculty.
- Administrators with faculty appointments did not receive a raise.

- If any faculty received a raise that would have been based on individual negotiations with supervisors (i.e., Dean or Chairs) or a part of a promotion package as normally occurs.

OnLife Health Survey and Biometric Screens

This is a participation-based program. UAMS volunteered to participate in this program and boasts a 60% participation rate. Ann Kemp, VP for Finance at the University of Arkansas and Steve Wood, Associate Vice President are overseeing this program. This project is very new and provides a starting point on how to specifically improve and tailor UAMS employee wellness programs. Additional information on how the program works and how to best benefit from the program is planned.

Ann Kemp also explained that the life coach group is a third party group affiliated with our insurance company UMR, and has signed a contract not to share employee biometric data and private information. In addition, UAMS will only receive employee biometric data in the form of population statistics, not as individual data in keeping with HIPAA requirements.

Dr. Rahn wanted to remind the group that UAMS is self-insured and is looking for wellness programs to keep employees healthy, reduce cost to employees and the University.

Other Matters

Dr. Rahn addressed the group about short-term and long-term financial status of the University; ongoing programs to advance the mission of UAMS, and securing funding opportunities for research and education.

Dr. Heard addressed the group regarding the Student Success Center. She discussed the accreditation of the program is by the Higher Learning Committee. Students will be able to get help with various aspects of learning including opportunities to improve writing skills. This will serve as a resource center to faculty that will be able to direct and recommend their students to this center.

Dr. Paul Miller reported that the faculty blog is now live.

The eVersity Initiative is requesting one faculty representative from each campus to serve on an eVersity Governance Council. Other faculty can contribute by teaching courses as online programs are developed. This will be considered outside employment. More details to come.