

Senate Meeting Spring Faculty meeting, April 30, 2015
COPH G225 4 pm

Members present: Howard Hendrickson, Dana Gaddy, Alesia Ferguson, Dan Rahn, Dan Voth, Phil Palade, Regis, Thea Rosenbaum, Murat Gokden, Cesar Compadre, Phil Breen, Lee Ann McMillan-Crow, Grazyna Nowak, Elizabeth Bard, etc.

Chancellor Rahn's commented on several aspects of campus health, recruitment and activities:

- Chancellor Rahn reported about the OnLife Health Survey Assessments. to fill out the health surveys and how that info would be aggregated. Not done. Was provided to the health individual, not as a group.
- The campus is in the middle of Health Design integration—involves service lines combining all patient care expenses and revenue. Provides for outcomes for education and research support. All positions for directing the service lines have been filled.
- July 15 will be start of Pope Moseley as the new COM Dean
- The CON Dean search is underway
- Have great candidates for the current COP Dean search.
- Has approved increase in raises for faculty and staff.
- The campus health insurance payments have exceeded the premiums brought in, requiring adjustments in premium costs for employees, which will continue into the next year. The Chancellor anticipates the future need to move to a cafeteria-style plan for support.
- UAMS has benefitted from the State's private option plan, but there is a minimal margin that has enabled UAMS' financial state to be in the black, instead of in the red. Any future changes in the State health plan will therefore have significant implications on the UAMS budget. Chancellor Rahn is on the advisory committee to the legislative task force that is considering the alternative to the private option.
- The COM practice plan is doing fiscally better.
- The new COM Dean is in negotiations with a finalist for the Informatics Director position.

Committee Reports:

Communications—Robert Eoff

- a. The Committee has established the faculty blog on the Senate Website to discuss all things faculty. Access thru senate website using UAMS login information. Encourage faculty to visit and respond.
- b. The Communications committee is participating in efforts to relay conversations between Provost/Chancellor and the faculty beyond the Senate Council level to the UAMS Faculty at large. Examples include getting feedback and impressions/needs etc for the proposed Faculty Development Center, and input into the language of the new policy describing part time faculty/Tenure status.

- c. The Committee aims to improve the mechanisms and focus by which senate council representatives / members can have more productive dialogue with the Deans of individual colleges.

Research—Lee Ann McMillan-Crow:

- a. A key goal for the Research Committee is to find ways to minimize PIs' administrative workload, using the NSF report as a guide. Purchasing office met with committee in Sept 2014 to deal with streamlining the purchasing processes. The dialogue resulted in more productive options to help streamline the online process. ORSP/grant administration is the next target for discussions. The Research Committee has met with ORSP staff to discuss the move to a service line-type organization.
- b. If TRI gets renewal funding, then the Research Committee will sponsor another meet/greet research faculty event.
- c. IACUC/Animal use concerns were addressed in a survey Dec 2014. Results were reported: Interactions with IACUC administration were viewed by >60% as good/positive interactions. About 50% respondents expressed satisfaction with AUP protocol approval process. Over 50% respondents said that changes in animal use protocols were needed. Responses were almost equally split in response to the question: Would you like to learn more about the federal requirements?. The development of an IACUC training workshop was desired by over 70% of respondents. 66% wanted a Town Hall meeting to discuss IACUC issues with IACUC administration. CITI training had been completed by most responding investigators.
- d. Clarification was provided regarding the potential overlap of activities by the COM Research Council vs Univ. Research Committee (URC). The URC (represented by all colleges) reviews MRE proposals. With new structure of indirect costs coming back to the VC of Research office in the future, the funds will be somewhat provided back to the investigators. Steve Post is a member of the URC, as is Phil Mayeux and Paula Roberson. Thus, there is representation of UAMS Senate Research Committee members on the URC as well to enhance communication between those 2 committees.

Faculty Affairs-Cesar Compadre:

The key objective of the Faculty Affairs Committee is to help to facilitate 2-way communication with the administration and the faculty. Reminder of goals of this Committee:

- Committee reviews issues presented by Faculty, Administration or Senate Council
- Committee issues reports to Senate Council.
- Any faculty member can bring an issue to the attention of the Committee
- Any faculty member can volunteer to be a part of the Faculty Affairs Committee

The issues addressed this past year by the Faculty Affairs committee:

- a. New Faculty Development Center organization
- b. Tenure status and part-time appointment for tenured faculty: New regulation allows a tenured faculty to preserve tenure while working part-time; useful regulation that could benefit a number of faculty. Faculty identified a statement that we collectively wanted removed from the new policy. The Committee, Council drafted edits, went back and forth with the Provost and the Chancellor, and the result was removal of the statement in the final policy that was approved.
- c. OnLife health initiative concerns.

Report from the Academic Senate President, Howard Hendrickson:

- Communication increased via Blog establishment, regular meetings with Provost with Howard and president-elect, excellent response from the Chancellor, and the Academic Senate Calendar (more people can input into the calendar).
- The new Faculty Resource Center is going to be the resource for information for faculty from each college. Dr. Heard has appointed faculty to the FDC committee to determine the plan thru input from the faculty. Started out as a new administrative structure. Chancellor said no new funds could be used. So, the provost's office will provide the information, coordinate many of the activities that currently run through the Office of Faculty Affairs in the COM. Workshops and resources are now being made available to all faculty through the Provost's office, without costing more funds. We do not know if the FDC plan has been approved or not yet to improve faculty resources on campus.
- Faculty engagement increased: eVersity was supported, and the input into the Academic Policy and the FDC will hopefully lead to faculty governance.
- We have been charged with the need to improve interaction between the Deans and the College representatives. In thinking about what topics to discuss with the Deans, the President asks that representatives recall the topics and action items previously developed. Hendrickson will re-send the list of Action items in the areas of Teaching, Communication, and Research that were agreed upon as topics of discussion. Representatives should meet with the Deans on a regular basis to discuss the items that are in the Retreat Summary to get an idea of progress. All the college representatives are encouraged to talk with the Deans and provide updates back to the Council.
- Council of Deans will also provide opportunity for the Council members to meet with the Council of Deans a few times a year for discussion.
- When Inter-Professional Education becomes a mandate, the Senate needs to understand our role and responsibilities for that initiative.
- The new President-elect of the Academic Senate was announced: Dan Voth, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, College of Medicine has been elected president with 98 of 102 votes.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Dana Gaddy for Laura Smith-Olinde.