

Academic Senate Council Meeting, December 6, 2013

Minutes

Attendees: Daniel Bercher, Phil Breen, Cesar Compadre, Carol Enderlin, Dana Gaddy, Julia Goodwin, Howard Hendrickson, Ilias Kavouras, Thomas Kelly, Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow, Rebecca Patterson, Larry Suva, Jerry Ware, Maha Mahadevan, Steven Post, Serra Ucer

Apologies: Elizabeth Bard, Michael Borrelli, Heather Neal-Rice, Todd Nick, Feifei Wei, Paul Wendel

Agenda:

1. Minutes from last meeting: Minutes were approved.
2. Report from Committees:
 - a. **Communications-** Dr. Gaddy discussed the recent efforts of the committee to begin the process of setting up a 'blog' on the UAMS intranet. The purpose for this site will be 2 fold: 1) a mechanism to address items that were identified with the recent Senate survey and 2) to provide a mechanism to post topics of interest to all faculty. The blog will not be a replacement for REAL communication, rather it might alleviate the problems associated with sending/receiving too many emails. The major issues that still need to get worked out with IT help are how to give permission to who can initiate a blog and then who/how the information from the blog will be received. The rules for the blog will be very well spelled out and is NOT anonymous so that it will be clear who posts specific comments. Dr. Post said that the goal is to have the Blog set up by early February.
 - b. **Research-** No report given. No meeting has been scheduled.
 - c. **Faculty Affairs-** Dr. Compadre will be having a meeting today at 1pm.
 - d. **University Research Committee (URC)-** Dr. Post serves on this committee and informed council that Dr. Cornett has stated that he wants this committee to be faculty driven so that it can be a resource for all faculty on campus. The URC will have a meeting in January to discuss how to elect new members and to set new goals for this important committee.
 - e. **Lifecycle-** Dr. Ware has served on this committee since its inception and outlined the goals for this committee. The current vision for this committee is to serve the needs of UAMS faculty from mentoring to promotion/tenure all the way to retirement. The idea is that the campus will/should have a 'Virtual Center' to help faculty with all of these needs. The academic affairs office (head by Dr. Jeanie Heard) has a budget to help with these issues, and plans (through this committee) are underway to establish this center with the goal of providing many of the services that are provided to COM (via Dr. Jan Shorey's office) to all of UAMS.

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3. Action Plan for Chancellor: Dr. Post presented the group with a summary table that was approved from the Chancellor with regard to the 4 goals established by the senate meeting with administrations regarding key survey results aimed at improving Teaching, Mentoring, Communication, and Research. Each of these Senate committees will be responsible for calling a meeting specifically to come up with more definitive action items. These meetings should be completed by mid-January. We will then discuss these action items at the next Senate council meeting with the goal of bringing solid ideas to the entire faculty for their input by February.
4. Nomination Committee/Elections: Tabled for next meeting
5. Other Business: none

Meeting adjourned at 11:15am.