

Minutes

April 26, 2016

Academic Senate Council

Attending: Bercher, Boyle, Boysen, Ferguson, Lefler, MacMillan-Crow, Phelps, Post, Rhoden, Smith-Olinde, Wei

Absent: Compadre, James, McCain, Miller, Neal-Rice, Price, Renard, Rosenbaum, Whited

Guests: Gardner, Beneš, Hayar

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

1. Lefler moved and Ferguson seconded approval of the February minutes; approved on voice vote
2. Chair's report
 - A. The Chancellor and Provost met with Senate leadership before the Chancellor's video message was released
 - B. The U of A System Board of Trustees asked the Chancellor to prepare a budget reflecting the estimated \$65 Million loss if the Arkansas Legislature failed to pass the Arkansas Works program; the program was approved for 1 year
 - C. The budget must still reflect the \$10-30 Million deficit that does exist for next year
 - D. MacMillan-Crow requested of Gardner that the Chancellor share that projected budget with faculty
 - i. Gardner responded by saying she had not yet seen the final budget and commented that reductions were given as generalities, not specifics
 - ii. The question that must be answered is can we maintain program accreditation and reduce, for example, academic support services (in her area of Academic Affairs), and that each dean faced the same question for their area
 - E. Boysen asked if there is a strategic plan to make up for the expected deficits and move forward.
 - i. Gardner: yes, but the process may not be obvious; have moved to expense-based budgeting with centralized monies so they can be used strategically
 - ii. In the previous budget climate, programs that were doing well continued to do well even in down times, however, struggling programs could not make up the difference. One priority now is to build up Bioinformatics
 - F. Post asked who set that priority?
 - i. Gardner: we thought CTSA critical and Bioinformatics was a missing piece for the CTSA
 - ii. Also, we need National Cancer Institute designation and we need Bioinformatics to connect to that
 - G. Gardner also informed the Council of the new Aligning Institute and Mission (AIM) Initiative from the American Association of Medical Colleges
 - H. Phelps asked how will the disconnect with program be addressed?

- i. Gardner: we need to determine incentives for faculty in all three areas, teaching, research, clinic
 - I. Ferguson commented there is no Dean of Research to help faculty identify and try for grants
 - i. Lefler responded that OSPAN is supposed to fill that need
 - ii. In Nursing, the grant process is smoother and there is more help with the new SPAN than previously
3. Committee reports
- A. Faculty Affairs – Cesar Compadre – not in attendance; no report
 - B. Research – Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow
 - i. There is a SPAN Advisory Committee meeting on 4/29/16; MacMillan-Crow and Ferguson will update the Council as needed
 - ii. She requested the Council if anyone has experience with SPAN to let her know; Hendrickson has commented he was happy with his SPAN interaction
 - iii. SPAN may help with writing and uploading of grant and there is now backup help in case a designated individual is out
 - C. Communications – Grover Miller – not in attendance; no report
4. Old Business
- A. Assign representative to administrative policy council - Gunnar Boysen has been appointed
 - i. There was a meeting the previous Wednesday; the topic of discussion was concurrent employment within the U of A System
 - ii. Budget – nothing to relay
 - iii. Access to previous versions of Sharepoint and documents...DIDN'T GET THIS
 - B. New Chair-elect - Leanne Lefler elected
 - C. Improve website
 - i. Abdallah Hayar has updated the member listings
 - ii. Gardner: an fyi-there is a group now working to improve the website on the Education side, first did the clinical website; want faculty to check their profile (through the research database)

Note: several Council members relayed difficulties with that system; Gardner is aware and there are plans to test before rolling that out to all faculty
 - D. Smith-Olinde reported the Human Resources estimate to deploy the revised Faculty exit survey in August, 2016
 - E. Plan a community event
 - i. Had discussed joint with HOD, 12th Street activity, Science Day in Schools

- ii. Ferguson volunteered to head up the school Science Day, targeting the last two weeks of May
- iii. Rhoden commented she has done that and it is combined with recruiting

5. New Business

A. Ad hoc grievance committee?

- i. Senate currently functions as an informal mechanism to resolve issues
- ii. MacMillan-Crow commented the Faculty Affairs committee seems to be the right avenue to continue this
- iii. Council should encourage faculty to bring problems early and work with the administration to resolve same
- iv. Post: the ad hoc nature of the Senate response is important
- v. Ferguson: on weekly email encourage faculty to come to Senate with issues
- vi. General consensus reached that a new committee is not necessary at present

B. New chairs for Faculty Affairs, Research, and Communications committees?

- i. MacMillan-Crow commented that if she becomes overwhelmed with the task should would say she needed to step down
- ii. General consensus that there is no need to change chairs at the moment; Voth will follow up with Compadre and Miller on this

C. Other new business?

- i. Benes asked Gardner about the 5 areas of AIM
 - i. Social determinants of health
 - ii. Interprofessional education
 - iii. Succession planning/institutional leadership
 - iv. Health of Arkansans
 - v. Couldn't remember the 5th area
- ii. In 3 months will begin to collect information with a helpful, non-punitive, site visit by the end of 2016
- iii. Ferguson asked about the Higher Learning Commission survey response; was sent to about 1500 faculty, need $\geq 40\%$; Voth stated he would include in the weekly calendar email
- iv. Ferguson asked about a faculty mixer on campus; several responded that the research get-together had that intention

Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.