

Academic Senate Council

February 27, 2017

Minutes

Present: Boyle, Compadre, Ferguson, Huitt, Lefler, MacMillan-Crow, Miller, Phelps, Post, Rosenbaum, Smith-Olinde, Voth, Whited

Absent: Bercher, Boysen, James, Matthews, McCain, Neal-Rise, Owen, Renard, Wei

Guests: Benes, Gardner, Jackson, Mahadevan, Rahn, Stearman

1. Approve January minutes—on a hand vote, minutes were approved as presented
2. Chair's report
 - a. Voth: this is my final monthly meeting as chair
 - 1)The full senate meets in March and there is no Senate Council meeting
 - 2)Dr. Bobbitt will speak on the Chancellor's search; Dan will provide a brief introduction
 - b. Chancellor search update
 - 1)There has been one meeting of the committee with search firm
 - 2)We talked about our expectations and how search will go, the logistics
 - 3)Otherwise there is not much to report, other than it's a good committee with good representation from across campus, a well put-together committee
 - c. The Spring Full Senate mtg March 27, 2:00 – 3:00 PM in Pauly; snacks and drinks will be provided
 - d. The Health Department parking lot shooting
 - 1)There is follow up by the UAMS police and they are working on decreasing response time
 - 2)Dr. Gardner: UAMS has changed to the RAVE app to text message faculty, staff and students in case of emergency; this software is used at UALR and UAF
 - 3)Students will have to opt out, so all cell numbers are in the system already
 - 4)UAMS has replaced all outside speakers, more lights have been installed in the War Memorial parking lot and pathway to parking lot
 - e. A parking deck is not in the finances for the short-term
 - f. The Chancellor's seminar series is set for April 5; Healthy UAMS is the topic
 - g. Follow up on AIM from Dr. Gardner
 - 1)UAMS pledged to have an action plan in place by April
 - 2)Over the next 6 weeks she be forming small groups for each of the 5 sections to develop a short-term action plan (not a strategic plan);
 - 3)She will share that document once it is put together
3. Committee reports
 - A. Faculty Affairs – Cesar Compadre
 - a. Distributed the 2013 Faculty Satisfaction Survey
 - 1)He would like to keep as many questions as possible for comparison, but all recognize there have been significant changes since then
 - 2)Council members to submit comments and revision suggestions to Cesar on content by Friday, March 10;
 - B. Research – Lee Ann MacMillan-Crow
 - a. The committee has conducted some business by email
 - 1)Trying to work on brown bag get-togethers for faculty to share research; please submit ideas for collaborations across campus

2)Example: April 27, day-long mitochondrial mania symposium co-sponsored between the Senate Research Committee and NCTR

b. OSPAN advisory committee

1)Unsure about direction of this committee; meets every 2 months, but there is a need for ongoing input from faculty about what is and is not working, not dedicated surveys

2)Ferguson: the committee is in the process of getting detailed input from CPH and Nursing right now; other colleges will be asked for this in the near future

3)Voth: the committee needs honest, specific input; of course, staff assume everything is going well with no negative input

4)Post: the quality of the interaction depends on the OSPAN person you interact with; many faculty are going straight to ORSP and bypassing OSPAN because it seems the knowledge base of OSPAN staff is limited still

C. Communications – Grover Miller

a. We've worked on different initiatives, for example the blog; a problem is that faculty do not feel able to express true opinions because administrators are included

b. UAMS is looking for a dashboard set up, but the wait has been longer than a year; the dashboard is currently available for clinical faculty

c. Miller is a member of the Internal Communication committee, and he sends interesting information to the Academic Senate college reps to share

d. The blog was too many clicks to get to, and it is difficult to reach all faculty globally; he has asked for some "space" in the UAMS Announcements but was told that is not possible; Dr. Gardner will check with the Communications office on what the Senate might get access to in order to reach all faculty

e. Suggestion: Why not host a monthly coffee session, but not a gripe session; the blog was set up as pros and cons to stimulate discussion; Suggestion: maybe make that a virtual meeting?

f. Could we get a once-a-month Senate section on UAMS Announcements? What else? Maybe get a keyword from today's (ASC) meeting with links to that part of minutes?

g. Rahn: speaking series successful, could be routinized for Senate faculty and topics of interest

D. Admin Council – Gunnar Boysen: no report

E. HOD meeting – Laura Smith-Olinde: Campus interpreters spoke

4. Old Business

a. Voth will introduce Dr. Gardner for a few words and also introduce Leanne Lefler as the new Chair

b. Have received a few nominations and he has begun contacting them to ensure they are willing to serve;

c. Cesar, need 2-3 on the chair-elect ballot; Voth will get chair-elect and at-large on Survey Monkey, up on March 1; cut off for nominations is today (2/28/17)

d. Alesia and Howard for at-large, plus Steve who is already an at-large representative on the Council; all are past chairs, bringing much experience to the Senate

5. New Business

a. Online bookstore

1)Question: has anyone heard of problems using the online bookstore? Lefler had question from a faculty member who had problems

2)Lefler: it is easy to make mistakes and you need to keep following up to ensure the correct book is ordered; there is no mechanism for them to let you know they got it right

3)some texts not in at beginning of semester

- 4) There are some issues with GUS and the designated course coordinator; work is ongoing to resolve that; Dr. Gardner indicated to call her if problems persist
 - b. GUS: Dr. Gardner comments
 - 1) From a student standpoint the system is working pretty well
 - 2) For faculty and administration GUS is not doing everything we want it to do; we have the bare minimum staff to implement, and have just signed contract with PeopleSoft consultants to be on campus for the next 16 weeks to help work through the issues; this is a \$100,000 commitment, but it is needed because UAMS folks are too stretched with the implementation to get this done, and we need the PeopleSoft expertise
 - 3) If there are problems you don't think the associate deans are aware of, let Dr. Gardner or Elizabeth Bard know about them
 - 4) The interface is not intuitive to faculty; the product isn't turnkey, and UAMS is very different from the targeted, typical university, requiring more "individualizing"
 - 5) The admissions piece is not great; e.g., can't print or save an applicant, and one has to go through many clicks to get to even one application; talk with Lee Ann, come to a Grad Admissions meeting to hear issues
 - c. Rahn: for all the issues raised, money would help
 - 1) We spend less than comparable institutions
 - 2) We are in the budget process now, and there is no guidebook on how many dollars to put toward core resources vs. how much to hold back to implement the mission
 - 3) The administration is trying to bolster all activities; for example, Stephanie could do way more if she had 6 more positions
 - d. Rahn: Dennis Smith is lecturing at noon 3/10/17 in CPH. He was the federal director of Medicaid under George W. Bush and is here in Arkansas working on the Medicaid redesign. He is a great source of information no matter if you agree with him or not
6. Adjourned at 2:59 PM