Academic Senate Council

September 23, 2019; 2:00 G230 RAHN

Minutes

Attending: Huitt, James, Karim, Lefler, Mendiratta, Macmillian-Crow, Miller, G. Post, Rosenbaum, Selig, Stack

Absent: Boysen, Burgess, Frett, Martin, Nagel, S. Post, Robertson, Whited, Zaller

Guests: Hayar, Palade, Prather, Mahadevan

I. Called to Order at 2:00 pm by Dr. James, July and August minutes were distributed via email and were approved without edits.

II. REPORTS FROM COLLEGE OFFICERS – Dr. Selig updated that COPH has hired Mark Williams PhD as new Dean; Dr. Lefler provided monthly update on Academic Senate activities at weekly CON meeting, where Jan Shorey also spoke about P&T policy; Dr. Huitt provided update that CHP reps were on agenda to speak at CHP fall meeting later that week; Dr. Huitt also announced that CHP Faculty were participating in planning for Strategic Vision 2029.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS – Faculty Affairs (Huitt): reported that the committee is building the website to host Faculty Handbook, starting with Table of Contents. Dr. Huitt reiterated need to find a new Chair for Faculty Affairs committee. Dr. Prather announced the Research Committee will meet with Vice Chancellor for Research Dr. Mei Ho. Dr. Hayar discussed updates to website for Communications Committee.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

   a. Dr. James expressed need to find a Secretary and find a Chair for Faculty Affairs committee
   b. Dr. James discussed update on UAMS Virtual UMR Wellness Exam. Academic Senate officers met with Dr. Gardner and raised privacy concerns over some of the Wellness Exam questions. Specifically, Senate officers raised concerns that all questions were required and could not be skipped. Dr. Gardner emailed Wellness Exam planner Dr. Stephanie Krause, who made all questions optional.
   c. The Academic Senate then went to the Wellness Exam website, and raised additional concerns:
      i. Website was hosted outside of UAMS domain, but gave no warning to participant that they were leaving UAMS web domain
      ii. Website displayed the UAMS Institute on Digital Health web banner, which reinforced impression that website was on UAMS domain
      iii. Website offered no verification of participant's identity, opening potential for malicious abuse (i.e. posing as a co-worker)

       iv.   Website gave no detail on how PHI would be used (e.g. entered directly into EPIC medical record, stored offsite indefinitely, etc.)

       v.   Dr. Mendritta agreed to send email to Dr. Krause citing concerns

  d. Dr. Macmillian-Crow gave update on the Foreign Influences ad hoc committee. She emphasized that many faculty are unaware of challenges associated with accepting grant funding from foreign entities, including proper disclosure. The Foreign Influences committee is working to both increase rigor of policy regarding grant funding from foreign entities but also increase awareness of relevant policies among faculty.

  e. Dr. Hayar presented data on UAMS Faculty Hirings and Departures over past decade. His analyses suggest that the number of faculty hired each year has been decreasing over time, with the steepest decrease for PhD faculty (~40 faculty per year in 2006 compared to ~20 faculty per year in 2018). Dr. Hayar also presented data suggesting gender inequality in salaries. The presentation ended with a suggestion to discuss findings with Office of Academic Affairs, who made data available.

  f. Dr. James announced the National Council on Faculty Senates meeting was to be held on October 19 at Austin Texas, and asked if anyone wished to represent UAMS at that event.

  g. Dr. James also announced plans for the Fall Full Faculty meeting to discuss Faculty Satisfaction survey results.

V.   OTHER BUSINESS

  a. Fall Full Faculty meeting was announced for October 30; later amended by email that Senate would have standard meeting on October 30, and Full Faculty meeting would be Wednesday, November 6 from 4-5:30 in RAHN Pauly Auditorium.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 pm