

Academic Senate Council

Jan. 29, 2020; 2:00 G230 RAHN

Minutes

Attending: Burgess, Huitt, James, Karim, Lefler, Martin, McNatt, Mendiratta, Miller, Nagel, G. Post, S. Post, Robertson, Selig, Zaller

Absent: Boysen, Frett, Macmillian-Crow, Rosenbaum, Whited

Guests: Hayar, Mahadevan, Meyer, Palade, Prather

- I. Called to Order at 2:00 pm by Dr. James.
- II. REPORTS FROM COLLEGE OFFICERS – CHP: Dr. Huitt reported that they met with their Dean and updated her on the faculty survey and leadership changes.
- III. COMMITTEE REPORTS – *Faculty Affairs*: Progress is being made with the Faculty Handbook. Academic Senate has already reviewed and provided feedback on the document. The committee hopes to finalize the document this semester. They are also looking for more members on the committee. *Communications Committee*: The committee discussed the need for more members on the committee. *Research Committee*: The committee met with Dr. Ho to discuss ways the Academic Senate can help her meet her research goals throughout campus. They talked about different ways the Academic Senate could partner with the research office to carry this out: 1) Convince Arkansas Legislature to increase funding to UAMS for research; 2) Come up with ways to help engage/collaborate with UAMS researchers through social events (i.e. establish a coffee corner, organize meetings between basic and clinical scientists; tea with faculty and Dr. Ho, public access to BioMed I, etc.); 3) Recognize faculty who have received funding; 4) Become more competitive in getting NIH funding; 4) Work to hire young/funded people.
- IV. JUDGING FOR STUDENT RESEARCH DAY—The Research Committee meeting with Dr. Ho also focused on the Academic Senate taking responsibility of judging the posters for Student Research Day on March 10. Members discussed potential options to be involved. Dr. Prather highlighted the fact that this could be an opportunity to increase visibility of the Academic Senate on campus, as well as to increase faculty involvement and service recognition. A special meeting was scheduled for Feb. 3 to discuss this further.

Discussion was also brought up about exploring the option of bringing non-UAMS undergraduate students to campus to work on faculty research projects. The current policies and procedures make it difficult to include undergraduate students from other universities to work on projects.

- V. ELECTION UPDATES—The Academic Senate is looking for nominations for President Elect. The President Elect will move to the President position in April 2020. The full election will take place this spring. A call for nominations for other Academic Senate positions will be announced: Member at Large, Secretary, and Parliamentarian.
- VI. SHARING SURVEY RESULTS WITH CHAIRS—Dr. James asked Academic Senate representatives to share the survey results with chairs and deans of each college. He also said he would provide college specific results, if necessary. The slides and presentation from the full faculty meeting on Nov. 13 are available on the Academic Senate Website.
- VII. PLANNING FOR SPRING FULL FACULTY MEETING: The full meeting will be in April. The date and time are TBD, but most were in favor of a Tuesday/Thursday meeting at Noon.
- VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: New Academic Senate Representatives will be needed for each College.
- Meeting was adjourned at 2:53 p.m.