

**Academic Senate Council Meeting Agenda
September 30, 2020**

I. Call to Order- Huitt 2:02 pm

Present: Tiffany Huitt, Edgar Meyer, Mary Burgess, Jeffrey Desantis, Saleema Kari, Andrew James, Brad Martin, Abdallah Hayar, James Selig, Paul Prather, Ashley McNatt, John Jefferson, Priya Mendiratta, Wendy Ward, Noelle Danylchuk, Tom Jones, Gina Drobena, Emily Spark, Leanne Lefler, Gunnar Boyson, Amber Teigan, Arthur Christia, Lindsay Blake, Phil Palade, Maha Mahadevan, Steven Post, Ginell Post, Gary Lewis, Marjan Boerma, Cherika Robertson, Robert Griffin, Laura Smitholinde, Dana Moser, Claire Tucker, Lee Ann MacMillan

II. Report of Minutes- Meyer; Minutes were approved.

III. College Officer Reports

- a. Graduate School (Boysen): Reports that the representatives were asked to stay on an extra year, and are agreeable.
- b. College of Health Professions (Robertson, Moser): Academic Senate update was provided at the full faculty meeting.
- c. College of Medicine (Mendiratta, Burgess): Met with Dr. Westfall on 9/16; they discussed the changes in disability coverage, thought Dr. Mizell's meeting went well; Dr. Westfall reported no anticipated changes in retirement benefits.
- d. College of Nursing (Lefler, Nagle): No update
- e. College of Pharmacy (Frett, Martin): No update
- f. College of Public Health (Karim, Selig): No update

IV. Committee Reports

- a. Research Committee (Prather): Have not had new activities since the Student Research Day. Paul Prather asked that we seek a new person to lead the committee. Colleges are being encouraged to hold individual virtual Research Days this spring.
- b. Communications Committee (Hayar): No update
- c. Faculty Affairs Committee (Huitt): Plan to set up informational meeting which will be a recruitment for volunteers, to get the group revitalized.
- d. Subcommittee for Constitutional Review (Martin): No update
- e. Subcommittee for Policy Review (James): Update on policy for faculty to enter a phased retirement. This would be a university policy. The feedback provided showed that the biggest concern was that the policy is available only for tenured faculty. Another concern was how this would apply to faculty who are part-VA, or part-NIH grant funded. Wendy Ward spoke to the policy: this was developed from the "ground up" by Emeriti, to give faculty opportunity to phase out, rather than have an abrupt retirement. She pointed out that the benefits stay 100% during this phased out process. It applies to Tenured faculty, so it protects their tenure when they go below 100%.

V. Updates

- a. COM FGP/LTD meeting with HR, September 17, 2020 (Huitt)
 - i. Recording link may be found on the [UAMS HR Benefits website](#) and by clicking [here](#).

- ii. A letter was sent from Academic Senate to the Chancellor. As a result a faculty-led webinar was held by Dr. Mizell with Human Resource; at end of contract cycle will engage in full bidding process; the plan details have been posted to the Human Resources site. A faculty-led Town Hall with the Chancellor was requested in the letter, but has not been scheduled.
- b. UA System BOT meeting, September 17-18, 2020 (Riley, James)
 - i. The financial loss this year was less than anticipated. Grants were up. UAMS was recognized for their excellent COVID-19 response.
 - ii. BOT [Meeting agenda](#), UAMS related items
 - 1. Campus report
 - 2. Formation of LLC to Develop and Operate a Proton Therapy Center
 - 3. Formation of LLC with Baptist Health for the Provision of Oncology Services
 - 4. Delegation of Authority to President to Approve Temporary Board Policy Revisions Concerning Benefits and Leave

VI. New Business

- a. Fall Full Senate Meeting (Huitt): Proposed date is Oct. 28, at 4 pm. Asked for topic for the Full Senate meeting. Ideas: (1) Review of benefits, resources available. (2) How the Strategic Plan 2029 has been affected by COVID-19. (3) Panel discussion on how COVID-19 has affected Health centers, including how faculty are affected, students are affected, and resources available.
- b. Speaker (TBA)

VII. Reminders and Announcements

- a. UA System BOT meeting, November 19-20, 2020, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
- b. Ask@UAMS.edu

VIII. Adjourn by Tiffany Huitt 2:57