

**Academic Assembly**  
November 17, 2014  
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

**MINUTES**

Present: Jeffrey Anderson, David Arnesen, Sarah Bee, Terri Clark, Brooke Coleman, Isiaah Crawford, Lynn Deeken, Bill Ehmann, Meggie Green, Mike Huggins, Michael Kinnamon, Suzy Martinez, David Neel, Michael Ng, Erik Olsen, Katherine Raichle, Roshanak Roshandel, Rob Rutherford, Heath Spencer

- I. Review of Minutes
  - A. Approved with no abstentions
- II. AcA Board of Trustee Appointment Confidentiality (*Mary Petersen*)
  - A. Summary
    1. BoT accepted AcA appointments to several subcommittees in the shared hope that the committees would benefit from experience, expertise, and interest of faculty perspective
    2. Appointees received a letter of confidentiality following historical norm for all members that what happens in meetings stays in meetings
    3. Some AcA members serving on BoT committees raised concerns that while the letters may be appropriate to outside trustee members, some items from BoT meetings would be useful to share with AcA in a timely way to contribute to shared governance
  - B. Discussion
    1. It is problematic when there is disagreement about what was said but faculty member cannot communicate that back to AcA
    2. AcA is seeking a compromise between blanket confidentiality and the need to communicate
      - a. Budget advisory team members were unable to share facts last year that would have clarified many of AcA's discussions in the spring
      - b. Would be helpful to describe in general terms the nature of the conversation to AcA and other faculty groups for factual clarification, still keep details confidential
      - c. Would be helpful to have an explanation of why certain items are kept confidential
      - d. A previous representative should be able to speak to a new representative to the same BoT subcommittee about the historical context of previous and ongoing issues
    3. Board of Trustees
      - a. BoT did not make an overt decision about faculty reporting back, was more interested in faculty contribution to BoT
      - b. Mary will take feedback from AcA and communicate it to the BoT
- III. Chardin Scholars: Reconsideration
  - A. Revisions
    1. Commencement program is now the place of record (not transcript)
    2. Student level of participation was clarified and level of rigor strengthened
  - B. Motion to approve proposal as written
    1. Approved with no abstentions
- IV. Re-Introduction and Overview of SU Senate Proposal
  - A. Summary
    1. Draft proposal document was worked on extensively last year including development of several new subcommittees

2. AcA talked about having fora and inviting colleagues from aspirational institutions to come and talk about faculty governance
  3. Senate model would be about 50% larger and would meet less often – members would serve more on subcommittees and most work would be done in those
- B. Revision process
1. Will need to revise AcA Bylaws as part of the proposal as well
  2. Also related to Faculty Handbook revision process
  3. Offer to consider partnership with Academic Affairs leadership to advise the document in a way that would lead to a positive outcome when officially proposed
- C. Next Steps
1. Seek approval from faculty at large to approve proposal before forwarding to President and BoT
  2. Need a specific process for development of proposal – discuss at future meeting
  3. Motion to table the proposal and form a subcommittee to develop process
    - a. Michael Ng, Erik Olsen, Mike Huggins
    - b. Other interested parties email above members
    - c. Approved with no abstentions
- V. Program Review Committee Leadership Stabilization
- A. VP Position(s) of AcA change annually
1. PRC chair position turnover is challenging – lack of continuity to work and leadership
  2. Previously discussed appointing a chairs for a longer period of time to ensure continuity
- B. Clarify the role of PRC
1. Currently review individual programs but not the programmatic aspect of the curriculum across the university
  2. Lack of budget information to evaluate program proposals
- C. Senate model subcommittee will work with the Provost’s Office to develop recommendation on term and charge of PRC chair
- VI. Committee Reports and Updates
- A. Two part-time faculty members have been nominated and elected for new seats as representatives of the part-time faculty on the AcA
- B. Heath will email the faculty to let them know and then send announcement from AcA