

Academic Assembly
September 28, 2015
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Present: Jeffrey Anderson, Eric Bahuaud, Sarah Bee, Rick Block, Terri Clark, Brooke Coleman, Claire Conway, Isiaah Crawford, Carlos de Mello e Souza, Bill Ehmann, Leticia Guardiola-Saenz, Arun Iyer, Kate Koppelman, Viviane Lopuch, Erik Olsen, Katherine Raichle, Rob Rutherford, Frank Shih, Heath Spencer, John Strait, Dan Washburn

- I. Welcome and Introductions
 - A. AcA needs to elect part time faculty representatives for this academic year
 - B. Heath Spencer and Sarah Bee will prepare the announcement to go out from Academic Assembly to all faculty with a two week deadline for nominations
- II. Review of 6-8-15 Minutes
 - A. Motion to consider minutes from previous meeting approved
 - B. Minutes approved with no oppositions or abstentions
- III. Report from September Board of Trustees Meeting
 - A. BoT meets quarterly and AcA is represented by the AcA President
 - B. Major issues: long term student housing, faculty handbook approval, campaign update
 1. Campaign is doing well
 2. Faculty Handbook was unanimously approved
 3. Last fiscal year ended budget-positive and went back into capital reserves – good for a safety margin and part of a larger debt management restructuring strategy that will improve credit for future loans (e.g., the new science center)
 4. Discussion of the financial viability of the tuition remission benefit
 5. Call for assessment of programs on campus, both academic and non-academic, may cause some challenging discussions
 - a. Program prioritization process has been reevaluated with faculty feedback
 - b. Will look at more direct aspects of instructional cost drivers at the institution and develop metrics that programs can use to clearly evaluate (course scheduling, completion rates, enrollment, space usage)
 - c. The prioritization planning group is seeking a faculty member from AcA to join
 - d. Non-academic areas have already started their process of assessing how effective and resource-efficient they are in strategic maintenance and growth
 6. Upcoming issues: endowment, housing strategy, 125th anniversary, enrollment and retention, programmatic and budget approval, Trustees bylaws revision
- IV. Discussion of Officers
 - A. VP Handbook is TBD, the position needs to be discussed since there should be much less volume than previous few years, will discuss at a future meeting
 - B. Margit McGuire volunteered for President, will miss first two meetings
 - C. Officers need to be tenured or tenure track
- V. Updates
 - A. Graduate Education Council needs AcA-recommended faculty rep
 - B. Isiaah will deliver updated report on the Comprehensive Financial Model at an upcoming meeting (October 12)
 - C. Student Health Center will no longer have flu shots available to faculty and staff

1. Major concern from a behavioral psychology standpoint
2. Isiaah will look into this further

VI. Executive Session