

Faculty Senate Minutes
1:00 – 2:15 P.M.
April 14, 2011

Members Present

Aram Hajian
Varduhi Petrosyan
Byron Crape
Arthur Drampian
Catherine Buon
Melissa Brown
Irshat Madyarov
Vahan Bournazian
Marine Antonyan
Eric Guevorkian
Karen Aghababyan
Lusine Galajyan

Members Absent

Garegin Gevorgyan
Gagik Gabrielyan

Guests

Rebecca Carter
President Boghosian

* Indicates excused absence

FACULTY SENATE AGENDA

- Quorum Call
- Approval of minutes of March 18, 2011
- Approval of Agenda
- Revisions to MBA curriculum
- Committee Reports
- Guest - President Boghosian
- Research and Scholarship Task Force
- Brown Bag announcement
- Miscellaneous

MINUTES

- **Quorum Call**
Quorum present
- **Approval of March 18, 2011 minutes**
The minutes were read and approved with a minor mechanical adjustment.
- **Committee Reports**
Executive Committee (EC)

EC met once to discuss the agenda for the upcoming Faculty Senate (FS) meeting and other organizational issues pertinent to FS.

Curriculum Committee (CC)

- CC met to discuss the new SBM curriculum proposal. CC has approved the proposal. The document takes into account the current needs of local market and practices of leading internationally recognized business schools in the US. Eric Guevorkian from SBM presented an overview of the changes:
 1. To abandon “one program fits all” approach
 2. To recognize formally the MBA concentration tracks
 3. To adopt a systemic approach to skills development
 4. To fill some gaps in the current curriculum in terms of content (subject areas)
 5. To comply with the University’s credit hour policy

FS voted and unanimously approved of the SBM curriculum proposal.

Ethics and Grievance Committee

No grievances reported

Committee on Extension Programs

CEP will meet the day after this meeting and report the updates next time.

Research and Scholarship Task Force

Some items from the report were tabled for the next time.

The preliminary report of the Research and Scholarship Task Force was presented and discussed. There was consensus that the task force was on the right track and should proceed with a final report including recommendations for amendments to the university policy on Faculty Hiring, Promotion and Retention. (The preliminary report is attached as an appendix to the minutes.)

Course Evaluations Ad-hoc Committee Report

Nothing to report

- **Guest - President Boghosian**

President Boghosian highlighted the importance of ensuring continuity of various positions at AUA and the on-going tasks. A few new appointments will be made to facilitate the work of the Department of Political Science and the Re-accreditation Committee.

One of the concerns raised among FS members is that AUA leadership and other decisions need to be more transparent and that they should be made through a more inclusive process. Another concern was that the faculty did not know what the vision of the AUA

leadership was on strategic development and what AUA was trying to accomplish through the recent changes. Also, there seems to be a disconnect between the Board [AUAC Board] and the campus in terms of the decisions on hiring and ensuring job security.

President Boghosian strongly supported the concern about the lack of security regarding academic positions and expressed his commitment to change this situation in the near future. However, there should be a clear distinction between the application of this principle to administrative vs. faculty positions.

Some FS members emphasized the difference between AUA and other universities in the US and the importance of understanding those differences. They also emphasized that it is totally inappropriate to direct AUA students to engage or not engage in any kind of discussion related to any such matter.

President Boghosian noted that an advisory committee would be formed to help AUA transition through these recent changes.

Executive Committee of Faculty Senate will meet and decide on a general faculty assembly meeting to address the questions regarding the on-going transitional changes at AUA.

- **Brown Bag Events**

The next Brown bag will be on Thursday April 28 at 12:30 in Room 26. Byron Crape will give a talk entitled "Resurrection After Specialization, or What Educational Specialization Does to Our Engagement with the World"

- **Miscellaneous**

- Building an Inclusive AUA Community

It was decided to form an ad hoc committee on building an inclusive AUA community. The committee will be chaired by Vahan and is open to all FS members who wish to join. There will be an ad hoc committee lunch meeting on Wednesday April 21 at 13:00 in room 26. FS members should send any suggestions regarding the form and content of actions or statements/letters to Vahan by Monday April 19, and he will compile them for discussion at the Wednesday meeting.

Meeting was adjourned 2:15 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Irshat Madyarov