Faculty Senate Meeting

April 19, 2016

* Quorum called at 9:02
	+ Present
		- David Davidian
		- Kevin Adkin
		- Hayk Mamajanyan
		- Arto Vaun
		- Jenny Paturyan
		- Aram Keryan
		- Mikayel Tovmasyan
		- Irshat Madyarov
		- Artur Khalatyan
		- Ara Chalabyan
		- Arthur Dolmajian
	+ Absent
		- Varduhi Petrosyan
		- Tsovinar Harutyunyan
		- Gayane Barseghyan
		- Don Fuller
		- Simon Clarke
		- Aleksandr Grigoryan
	+ Guests
		- Provost Randall Rhodes
		- Shari Melkonian
		- Catherine Buon
* Approval of the agenda
* Approval of minutes from the March 23, 2016 meeting
* Reports from Committees:
	+ Executive Committee led by Irshat
		- Discussion of ‘scholarship’ raised by a faculty member
		- Faculty evaluations
		- FS members to volunteer to assist with the Faculty Retreat in August (8/23)
	+ Curriculum Committee with Catherine Buon
		- Met by e-vote and approved two summer courses
		- Deadline for new courses for summer is May 15 and for autumn is June 15
	+ Academic Standards Committee (proposed) led by Irshat
		- Two policies would be affected by the creation of this new committee - Probation and Dismissal, Grad Policy (not yet modified)
		- Very minor changes were made to the charge of this proposed committee.
		- Action: Committee members will be established/elected in September with the formation of the 2016-17 Faculty Senate.
		- Wording change: “Faculty: one appointed from each CBE, CSE, CHSS, SPH, plus two additional elected/appointed by Faculty Senate”
		- Vote: Yes - 9 Against: 0
	+ Ethics & Grievance Committee led by Arto Vaun
		- Nothing to report.
	+ Extension Committee led by Mikayel
		- A new charge was created and requires FS vote.
		- Conversation during last FS meeting discussed the role of this committee and its relationship with Extension. Is it advisory or more authoritative?
		- Arpie Balian, the current Extension Director, may step down this summer. Do we approach her now with our concerns or do we wait to discuss with the new Director?
			* Eight candidates are currently being considered.
		- Action: Share the previous review of Extension with FS. This may help inform our discussion.
		- Action: Invite guests to next FS meeting to discuss this topic.
			* Extension Director, Provost, President, and possibly others.
		- Possibility: Dissolve this committee and use the FS resources to develop a ‘budget’ or ‘institutional resources’ committee instead. Oversight of academic courses could be overseen by other FS committees.
	+ Student Learning Committee led by Artur
		- Brown Bag on ‘Formative Assessment’. Two more for the semester left, but given the remaining time only one will be scheduled.
	+ Faculty Package for Recruitment and Retention led by Irshat
		- FS must review the report that was produced. The report will then be shared with administration.
		- Action: Move #5 regarding sabbatical from ‘non-financial’ to ‘financial’ column.
		- Action: Consider the idea of ‘core faculty’. This may affect how some recommendations are implemented. AUA has a definition that can be used.
		- Action: How to present this to the Board of Trustees (format, guests). Will share this with BoT before they arrive (should send by May 15).
* Course evaluations led by Shari
	+ Currently two forms, one for graduate and one for undergraduate. But undergraduate is now online and graduate is not.
	+ It is suggested and agreed by various groups at AUA for graduate and undergraduate use the same evaluation. This would be beneficial for course, instructor, and programmatic review.
	+ Vote: unanimous vote For the change
* General Assembly - topics for discussion
	+ Proposed date is Thursday, April 28 @ 3pm
	+ Topics: strategic planning (be more specific, a few sub-topics), what to discuss with BoT, student conduct and safety
	+ Action: Exec Comm work on topics a bit.
* Review of new policies
	+ Press and Outside Inquiries
		- Vote (not a formal vote): a consensus vote
	+ Photo and Video Use
		- Proposed changes to make the text more specific for “photo” and “video” or both
		- Do students have access to the photo archives?
		- Changes will be made based on FS comments/feedback
		- Vote (not a formal vote): a consensus vote
	+ Concurrent and Nonconcurrent Degrees and Waiver of Requirements for University-Level Courses
		- Postpone the review of this document until next time
* Meeting ends at 10:42

Minutes taken by Kevin Adkin.