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.