Faculty Senate Meeting

October 27, 2016

* Quorum called at 16:05
  + Present
    - Gayane Barseghyan
    - Mane Beglaryan
    - David Davidian
    - Gagik Gabrielyan
    - Louisa Harutyunyan
    - Arthur Khalatyan
    - Irshat Madyarov
    - Hayk Mamajanyan
    - Agassi Manoukian
    - Natella Mirzoyan
    - Chris Ray
    - Karen Sarkavagyan
    - Elham Shayegh
    - Arto Vaun
  + Absent/excused
    - Jenny Patuyan
    - Vahram Ter-Matevosyan
  + Absent
    - Tsovinar Harutyunyan
    - Aram Keryan
  + Guests
    - Provost Randall Rhodes
    - Arina Zohrabian
    - Simon Clarke
    - Sergey Tantushyan
    - Maria Martirosyan
    - Garine Palandjian
    - Lusine Yesayan
* Approval of the agenda
  + Unanimous approval
* Approval of the minutes from September 29, 2016
  + Unanimous approval
* Reports from Committees:
  + Executive Committee led by Irshat
    - Executive Committee met last week. Issues discussed in meeting will all be discussed in today’s meeting.
  + Curriculum Committee with Provost Rhodes
    - Nothing to report.
    - The first meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2016
  + Ethics & Grievance Committee led by Arto Vaun
    - No current cases.
    - The first meeting will be held in the coming weeks.
  + Student Learning Committee with Chris Ray
    - In liaison with the AUA Accreditation Office (Sharistan Melkonian), Student Learning Committee intends to conduct a survey measuring the effectiveness of teaching and student learning across the disciplines. Chris Ray brought up the issue of low attendance during the brown bag sessions, which led to a discussion about the aims/goals of brown bags and the necessity of communication with faculty for recognition of real pedagogical needs.
  + Faculty Package for Recruitment and Retention led by Irshat
    - The committee has met and members split into three groups each working on their own recommendations. They all meet again as a large group on Dec. :
      1. Group working on finance-based recommendations: Gevorg Goyunyan, Arina Bekchyan, Irshat Madyarov, Aleksandr Grigoryan, Jenny Paturyan
      2. Group working on faculty and family support recommendations: Marina Dodigovic, Hasmik Hovhannisyan, Irshat Madyarov
      3. Group working on professional development recommendations: Arto Vaun, Mane Beglaryan, Aleksandr Grigoryan, Vahram Ter -Matevosyan, Arina Bekchyan, (to be confirmed), David Davidian, Vardan Bagdasaryan
  + Executive Committee led by Irshat
    - The FS action priorities for 2016-17 were discussed.
    - Further changes to some items were offered.
    - The FS action priorities for 2016-17 was approved (11 in favor, 2 abstention)
  + Extension Committee led by Sergey Tantushyan
    - Discussion on the student complaints regarding e-Math scores: a number of students announced their concerns with the current undergrad admission process, as it is believed that the math questions have been sold to/known by a number of students prior to the tests. The Extension Committee investigations show that the accusation of selling the tests is baseless, because neither the accusers, nor the accused are willing to discuss the matter further. With this picture in mind, the Extension Committee aims to either change the math test to the SAT or limit the numbers of attempts for each student.
* Undergraduate and Graduate Admission, Discussion by Arina Zohrabian
  + Certain changes to be implemented in the UG admission process .
  + Certain changes to be implemented in the Graduate admission process.
  + The admission office seeks the faculty senate members approval through voting before changing the document.
  + The documents will be shared with the FS members to take an e-vote.
* Meeting ended at 17:45.

Minutes taken by Elham Shayegh.