Faculty Senate 2021–2022
MINUTES: April 20, 2022
Location: Zoom Meeting
Time: 6:00-8:00 pm
H. Ferguson, Chair; K. Friestad, Recording Secretary


Guests: Sozina Katuli, Chip Meekma, Willie Hucks, Anneris Coria-Navia,

Votes & Actions taken (numbers [n] represent items on original agenda)

[2] Minutes of prior Faculty Senate Meeting
MOTION: VOTE passed. To approve the minutes as presented (K. Friestad). Votes: 18 (passed)

[4] Council/Committee Reports (A. Bosman)
Voted to approve and Seconded: Votes: 18 votes
Undergraduate Council: (None)
Academic Council: (None)
Graduate Council: (None)

Academic Operations and Policy Council:
   a. (2/14/2022 Minutes): the Provost summarized the situation regarding graduate assistantships, including Human Resources categories for Graduate Assistantships, purpose of a graduate assistantship (educational/professional development opportunity), and where they can be employed. A working group will be formed. Janine Lim also provided an update on attendance reporting, and that the attendance report will be refined.
   b. (3/14/2022 Minutes): Recommend state-required TB testing from the Academic Data Governance Committee
   c. (3/28/2022 Minutes): Discussion about registration for Acadeum, and the academic use of Acadeum courses; Update about the Fall 2022 AAA visit.

Faculty Policy & Development Council:
   a. (2/14/2022 Minutes): Discussion regarding the reopening of campus with COVID restrictions easing up; Research support and mentoring; the Tenure policy was shared with request for revision feedback with intention to finalize revisions at the March meeting. It was discussed that the policy be included in job postings or given to newly hired faculty.

Liberal Arts Council: (none)
Race and Justice: (none)

Senate Discussion & Announcements


[3] ETLC & CTL Updates (A. Coria-Navia)
Faculty Mentors still needed; Dr. Coria-Navia is also offering a class, Teaching in Higher Education, over the summer. You can take advantage of the free class benefit through AU to take the class, but it must be for credit or audit.
[5] Updates to Financial Reimbursement policies (Chip Meekma)
New Financial Reimbursement policies discussion with Chip Meekma; the faculty are given an allotment of $300 for professional development expenses such as books, which there is no limit on what they spend that on, dependent on approval from their chair. We discussed the various items that faculty can spend their professional development on. Chip talked about the process to develop the policies, including who was involved, and some thoughts on the process for publishing and making the campus community aware of the policies. Various questions were asked about the policies, including the allocation of funds to various IDC numbers, coordinating budget items for chairs, etc.

For example: IT Convo; Faculty-related topics (Faith, Bandwidth); Employee Mental Health; Rankings; Strategic Plan: Remuneration; Week of Prayer scheduling issues; New ID Cards (cost $30).

Added items for future discussion and follow-up:
Is graduation going to continue to be in the Howard? and additional issues that occurred during the graduation ceremonies (faculty not being able to attend multiple ceremonies; very loud; division of CAS was really hard because it made people (students, faculty, parents) have to choose which ceremony to attend, etc.

Rankings: will be worked on with the ad-hoc group over the summer

Comment by Chip about faculty salaries going up in the next three years.

Week of Prayer scheduling: Heather will email Pastor Jose

Tour Discussion with Dr. Arthur: Heather will email Dr. Arthur to follow up with that.

IP Policy and its return to the Senate agenda in the fall; Heather will follow up re where the IP Policy is at

[7] Staff Senate Rep for next year (tabled)

Next Faculty Senate meeting: September 21, 2022 (pending approval by new Senate Exec members)