Minutes of CAS Faculty Senate meeting, May 21, 2018, 4 pm


Also present: Jennifer Daniels (Office of Equity and Inclusion), L. Duggan (for A. Barrier, Chair of the CAS Educational Affairs Committee), Naomi Nash, Eric Rise, and Cindi Shenkle (Committee on Advisement and Retention), Robyn Phillips-Pendleton (Chair of the CAS Diversity Committee).

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:04 PM.
II. The agenda was approved as amended.
III. The April minutes were approved.
IV. Dean’s Remarks
   The Dean said the steering committee working on the new University budget model will continue working through the summer. He said the lack of a budget model does not hinder the University’s progress, including hiring. He also thanked the Senate for their work this academic year.
V. Elections
   Elections were conducted for Senate officers for AY 2018-2019 and for the Promotion and Tenure Committee for AY 2018-2020. All of the candidates were unopposed. Bernard McKenna was elected to be President-Elect and Jim Morrison to be Past President, and John Gizis and John Morgan were re-elected Secretary and COCAN Chair. The new members of the Promotion and Tenure Committee will be Asia Friedman (Sociology), Sheng Lu (Fashion and Apparel Studies), Asima Saad Maura (Languages, Literatures, and Cultures), Peter Monk (Mathematical Sciences), Lance Winn (Art), and Sean Zdenek (English).
VI. Senate President’s Remarks
   Senate President S. Kaufman thanked Dean Watson and the Senate for their work this academic year. He reviewed the Senate’s major activities this academic year, and he identified areas for follow-up next academic year.
VII. Presentation from the Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) (J. Daniels)
   J. Daniels reviewed which policies OEI oversees, what education and awareness programming OEI offers, the Know More campaign, and what advice and resources OEI can privately provide faculty and administrators who are concerned about something they have observed. Daniels also discussed the University’s faculty/staff Diversity Causes and the support and advocacy activities in which they are engaged. Daniels concluded by taking questions from the Senate. Afterward, Senate President S. Kaufman said every Senator should encourage their colleagues to undergo implicit bias training.
VIII. Report of Committee on Advising and Retention (C. Shenkle, E. Rise, N. Nash)
C. Shenkle referred to a report by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) that concluded advising at UD does not promote student satisfaction or success. The three biggest weaknesses in advising that were identified were accessibility, accuracy, and consistency. As a result, UD convened a university-wide task force this academic year. Access to the Blue Hen Success Collaborative (BHSC) was made available to all advisors in the fall of 2017 to enhance student success. The task force found CAS is the only large college without professional advising for students in their first two years, is the only college where students cannot schedule appointments with advisors through BHSC, and is the only college that cannot do outreach from/to students via BHSC. The task force recommended that all first-year students, sophomores, and transfer students be assigned a professional advisor, that all juniors and seniors be assigned to faculty advisors or departmental staff advisors, and that advising be managed at the college level, among other recommendations. Contingent on funding, advisors will be hired in Spring 2019, in time for full implementation of BHSC.

IX. Report from the Educational Affairs Committee (L. Duggan)
L. Duggan presented a resolution clarifying guidelines for Second Writing Requirement courses. M. Dominguez-Torres proposed a minor formatting amendment that was accepted by L. Duggan, on behalf of the Committee. K. Rosenberg moved to accept the amendment, and B. McKenna seconded. The resolution was unanimously passed, as amended.

X. Report from COCAN (J. Morgan)
J. Morgan updated the Senate on the winners of the elections of at-large CAS senators in April (D. Galileo, L. Duggan, and Andrea Sarzynski), and on committee staffing. Then, he presented a resolution drafted by Alan Fox, the Chair of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee, making the hitherto non-renewable 2-year terms of members of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee renewable once for a second 2-year term. The resolution was unanimously passed.

XI. New Business
J. Morgan proposed that the Senate include a discussion of student advising on its September agenda.

XII. The Senate adjourned at 5:12 PM.