

## University Faculty Council Minutes

**Date:** November 28, 2017, 2nd meeting of academic year

**Place:** Page Conference Room, TAC

**Time:** 11:30 -12 for lunch, 12 to 1:30 for regular meeting, 1:30 to 2:00 for executive (faculty only) meeting

**Member Attendees:**

Administration:

President: Andy Benton

Provost Rick Marrs

Vice Provost Lee Kats

Seaver College:

Tom Vandergon

Maire Mullins (Chair)

Lincoln Hanks

GSBM:

Andreas Simon

David Ralph

Mike Magnusson (subbing for Larry Bumgardner)

GSEP:

Barbara Ingram

Paul Sparks

Law:

Babette Boliek

David Han

Public Policy:

Ted McAllister

**Members not attending:** 4<sup>th</sup> member from Seaver (Cooker Storm) is on maternity leave.

1. Meeting opened with prayer by Tom.
2. Go-round of introductions.
3. Minutes, which were posted on Courses site UFC, were approved.
4. Voice vote unanimously approved David Ralph as vice-chair.
5. Old business: **Faculty conference:** Tom reported that some people were upset about biased readings, but discussions were a positive experience. He made clear that the intent was to challenge thinking and not make disparaging comments about any academic discipline.
6. Old business: **Faculty Development Committee:** Ted described how a prior UFC wanted to start a conversation among faculty from all 5 schools about principles of teaching. The goal became an ongoing, sustained discussion through seminars or discussing a body of literature, as a way of building understanding (not necessarily consensus) of how we think about our teaching, along with shared vocabulary. Another goal was to help new faculty understand what it means to be part of the larger faculty community rather than just part of their school.

**ACTION ITEM:** obtain copy of Chancellor's address at annual Faculty Conference.

7. Old business: **Shared Governance-Best Practices task force document.**

- Provost gave a summary of the history of this task force, starting with recognition that shared governance was playing out differently at different schools. The conversation began with five topics and an agreement that the document was not going to be prescriptive but rather descriptive. Tom reported his experience on that task force and how schools did not want standards imposed on them.
- Rick synthesized a document that was a good reflection of conversations; it did not hit on all of the opinions. It was intended to fill the gap between vision and practice.
- Barbara shared view that AAUP standards should be used to guide our discussion of shared governance and provided items from their check-list. She announced Feb 10 conference of CA-AAUP on "Building and Strengthening Shared Governance: Challenges and Solutions."
- Babette expressed objections to the "best practices" document and found the AAUP checklist helpful. She proposed that sharing how we do things in our schools would be very helpful.
- Maire asked if there was a motion to continue the work of the task force. In the absence of such a motion, we agreed that the Task Force document should be posted on the UFC Courses page, for informational purposes.

**ACTION:** Barbara (secretary) will restore the original document without Mark Scarberry's editorial comments but including some of his informational additions.

8. New business: Mike (GSBM) reminded us that when the charter was developed, the intention was to have meetings on other campuses and to promote attendance by faculty who are not elected representatives.

**ACTION:** We need to address this when we make next year's schedule. The current representatives from GSEP and GSBM were in favor this year of all meetings being held at Malibu.

9. New business: Non-tenure faculty: topic introduced by GSEP.

We discussed the practices at the different schools.

**GSEP:** Two ranks, called "lecturer" and "senior lecturer." FA of GSEP wants to improve salary and provide more steps.

**Seaver:** Described new handbook for nontenured faculty who have been here for 7 years: Step promotions, review process, opportunity for sabbaticals. Committee had tenured and non-tenured faculty and worked with Dean. Separate review committee –half tenured, half fix term. They have one to three year contracts. The Dean makes the decision whether to renew the contract. The Dean will refer to the peer committee.

**Law school:** controlled by ABA. The "contract faculty" have more security than at other schools. Presumption that contracts will be renewed except if there is cause to not renew

**GSBM:** calls them "practitioner." They are evaluated every year. They can get multiyear contracts.

10. **Motion:** prepare a document of current practices at each school, based on a list of topics generated by this group and approved by the group. Carried unanimously.

**ACTION:** Maire and Barbara will prepare a list of topics, seeking feedback by email.

11. **Faculty emeriti:** Maire has presented a proposal regarding emeritus faculty after having studied what other schools are doing.

- a. We reviewed the current benefits
  - i. Email address
  - ii. Library privileges
- b. The Provost explained how a retiring faculty member obtains emeritus status:
  - i. Minimum 10 years of service
  - ii. faculty requests it, with letter of recommendation by dean (of division or college) to the provost.
  - iii. Provost and president meet and make a decision during August after the retirement date.
- c. Maire's proposal
  - i. Faculty retirement liaison – faculty member
  - ii. Funding and benefits – possible funding for research and presentations
  - iii. Annual luncheon

This topic will be on the agenda at our next meeting.

12. Executive session started at 1:30. We discussed our recommendation to the Provost to allow 5 faculty members on UPC. We voted unanimously to present that proposal.

**ACTION:** Maire will send a revised rationale to the faculty members for input. If no substantive changes or objections are presented, she and Barbara will meet with Provost to present this document.