

University Faculty Council

Pepperdine University

Tentative Agenda prepared by 2014-15 UFC chair Mark Scarberry for First UFC Meeting of 2015-16, to be held on September 25, 2015, at 11:30am, on the West Los Angeles Campus, Room WLA 499.

Lunch will be served at 11:30. The meeting will start by noon and will end no later than 2:30. Agenda items 7(a) and 7(b) could take up the entire meeting time (and more). Perhaps the discussion of them at this meeting could be relatively brief, so that there is ample time for consideration of the “New Business” items.

Agenda items:

1. Brief introductions.
2. Election of officers: chair, vice-chair, recording secretary.
3. Approval of minutes.
4. Choice of UFC members to act as liaisons to various university committees.
5. Brief recap of prior UFC activities.
6. Dean searches: updates on progress and possible continued discussion of search and selection processes.
7. “Old Business” – two related items:
 - (a) Item 5 from the agenda for the UFC meeting held on May 13, 2015: “[D]iscussion of how to understand Pepperdine’s mission, and of what it might mean for us to move toward excellence (or further excellence) as Pepperdine.” A possible goal is for Pepperdine to become the preeminent Protestant university in the United States. At the May 13 meeting we discussed ways in which the broader faculty could become engaged in these issues (perhaps by formation of small groups that would frame the issues, which then could be the focus of the fall 2016 university faculty conference).
 - (b) Further discussion of the Dec. 9, 2014, white paper prepared for the Religious Standards Committee of the Board of Regents (item 1 from the agenda for the May 13, 2015, meeting).
8. “New Business”

(a) Opportunity for each member, including the President and Provost, to suggest goals for the UFC’s work and to suggest matters for the UFC to consider this year. These matters may

include shared-governance issues (pursuant to the role of the UFC as described in the document entitled “A Vision for Shared Governance for Pepperdine University), but internal school matters may only be discussed if representatives from the particular school bring the matters to the UFC.

(b) Possible discussion of educational assessment (assessment of assessment), with reference to two recent Chronicle of Higher Education commentaries: <http://chronicle.com/article/Does-Assessment-Make-Colleges/232371/> (“Does Assessment Make Colleges Better? Who Knows?”); and http://chronicle.com/article/Does-Assessment-Make-Colleges/232461/?cid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en (“Does Assessment Make Colleges Better? Let Me Count the Ways.”).

9. Scheduling of next UFC meeting.