

University Faculty Council Minutes

Date: February 1, 2018, 3rd meeting of academic year

Place: Board Room, TAC

Time: 11:30 -12 for lunch, 12 to 2:00 for meeting

Administration:

President: Andy Benton

Provost Rick Marrs

Vice Provost Lee Kats

Seaver College:

Tom Vandergon

Maire Mullins (Chair)

Cooker Storm

GSBM:

Andreas Simon

David Ralph

Kevin Groves (subbing for Larry Bumgardner)

GSEP:

Barbara Ingram

Paul Sparks

Law:

Babette Boliek

David Han

Public Policy:

Ted McAllister

Member not attending: Lincoln Hanks, Seaver

1. Maire opened the meeting with a poem, *Try to Praise the Mutilated World*, by Adam Zagajewski, followed by a prayer.
2. We went around the table with introductions.
3. Motion to accept minutes was passed. Suggestion made to make them briefer and omit details of discussions.
4. Announcement: Maire mentioned AAUP conference at WLA campus on Feb. 10.
5. Reports were given from liaisons to two university committees/councils.
6. The Provost reported on delivery of our proposal to the UPC, stating that there was an overall favorable response but there were concerns about our misunderstanding of the function of UPC. We discussed the matter. **Action:** Maire will make changes in our proposal to respond to concerns of UPC, send it to us by email for review, and then send it to the Provost. He stated that his plan is to have proposed changes in the UPC charter ready for the next UPC meeting.
7. It was recommended that we read the Chancellor's address from the last Faculty Conference, which is now available on the UFC Courses site.
8. We briefly reviewed the history of the "Best practices" document and our past decision to let it stand for reference purposes. It is on the UFC Courses site.

9. Maire reported that OIE told her that HERI data from the faculty survey administered in September of 2016 is not yet available. **Action:** She will follow up in trying to get data.
10. In response to instructions from the November 28, 2017 UFC meeting, we received a list of topics for gathering data about “current practices” at all schools. Following discussion, the consensus was that no further action should be taken but that the list should be available on the Courses site. It was affirmed that if a single school is having problems with their current practices, the representatives should bring the matter to the UFC. **Action:** post list on Courses.
11. Maire presented a proposal for services/events for faculty emeriti/emerita and asked us to talk about it at our schools. Andy was supportive of the idea and indicated that funds could be made available for a three-year plan.
12. We discussed the idea of initiating the use of faculty ombudspersons, consistent with practice at many universities. **Action:** We will discuss this idea with our respective faculty associations.
13. We discussed the topic of faculty evaluation of administrators. The provost clarified that Senior deans have 5 year appointments, and that faculty should be surveyed at the beginning of the 5th year.
14. Meeting adjourned at 2:00.