

University Faculty Committee
December 3, 2014
Agenda

Colleagues:

A reminder: The UFC will meet tomorrow (Wednesday, Dec. 3) from 11:30-2pm. The meeting will be held in the Executive Dining Room at the Villa Graziadio, on the Malibu campus.

Here is the agenda (which may be supplemented by other matters that any of you may want to bring up):

1. As previously noted, we will discuss dean search guidelines and procedures. The law school's Faculty Handbook sets out a process that we discussed last year as a potential model, at least in some respects. See below* (after my signature block) for the relevant provisions. If any of you have similar provisions in your school's documents, you might want to circulate them.

2. We need to select UFC members to be liaisons with the various university committees. From our charter, at the very end of paragraph 3:

"The UFC shall select one of its voting members to serve as a liaison between the UFC and (a) the UAC, (b) the UMC, (c) the UPC, (d) the UTC, (e) the UDC, (f) the ASLC, and any other University committees as agreed between the UFC and the University administration. If a member of the UFC is a member of such a committee, then that member shall serve as the liaison."

3. A Seaver faculty representative asked that we discuss "how our different schools approach long term contingent/visiting faculty in terms of title, pay, and evaluation, as well as inclusion in faculty community and processes."

4. We will have an initial discussion of whether the UFC should play a role of some kind in the university's consideration of Title IX issues involving sexual harassment and sexual violence. (We could, for example, ask for information on what the university is doing, and raise concerns that we or our faculties may have. We might also play a role in keeping our faculties informed.) I previously provided links to some materials on the subject. There is a team working on these issues for the university. It probably would be best, if we decide that the UFC should play a role, for us to meet with members of that team before engaging in substantive discussions. Meanwhile, I have asked Provost Marrs to take a few minutes at our meeting to provide some context.

If there is time, it could be helpful to go around the room and see what each of us – including the President and Provost – thinks might be accomplished this year by the UFC. That would include any problems or opportunities that might be addressed by the UFC, and particularly any matters that our faculties may have identified for UFC consideration.

With regard to items 1 and 3, please remember that the UFC's charter calls for it to deal with university-wide concerns. The charter calls for us to avoid discussing issues that are internal to a particular school, unless the representatives from the school raise the issues in the UFC. I've attached the charter. Salary issues are specifically identified as internal school matters.

I suppose that concerns about whether faculty have a sufficient level of involvement in dean selection could be university-wide concerns. In any event, we can discuss issues, including governance issues, that are internal to a school if the school's representatives raise the issues.

The shared governance document that was adopted last year (after a great deal of work) calls on the faculties of each school to identify governance issues to raise with their administrations. See https://www.pepperdine.edu/provost/content/policies/shared_governance.pdf . (I've also attached it as a Word document; this was the final version that was considered and approved at the UFC's 3/26/14 meeting – hence the title of the document.) The representatives of a school may choose to bring governance issues to the UFC. Here is the section from the shared governance document on the role of the UFC in the process of working out the development of shared governance:

“The University Faculty Council (UFC) has served, and will continue to serve, an important but nonexclusive role in that process at the university level. Administrators and faculty who serve on university committees engage in that ongoing process as they work out their respective roles. At the school level, faculty and administrators are committed to engage in it as well, so that our shared governance vision will be more than a vision – so that it will be implemented in concrete ways. To that end, faculty at each school will determine shared governance concerns to be discussed with their administrations, and school level administrators similarly may identify concerns to be discussed with their faculties. Administrators and faculty at each school are encouraged to document their understandings of shared governance, including the particular ways in which it will be implemented. Faculty representatives to the UFC are free, under the terms of the UFC Charter, to bring such concerns with regard to their own schools to the UFC for discussion.”

Please let me know if there are additional items you would like me to add to the agenda. You are also free to raise issues at the meeting that are not on the agenda, whether or not you let me know in advance; we aren't particularly formal.

Best wishes,
Mark (your humble Chair)

Mark S. Scarberry
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*Section III.D.8. of the law school Faculty Handbook:

8. Appointment of the Dean

a. Appointment of the person holding the Office of Dean of the School of Law will be made by the President of the University pursuant to recommendations made by majority vote of all full-time School of Law tenured and tenure track faculty present at a meeting at which there is a quorum.

b. The recommendations by the tenured and tenure track faculty will consist of three candidates acceptable to the majority of the tenured and tenure track faculty present at a meeting at which there is a quorum. While the President shall not be bound to act according to the recommendations of the tenured and tenure track faculty, the President shall not appoint a person

to the position of Dean who is unacceptable to a majority of the tenured faculty of the School of Law.