

UHD

Faculty Senate

Minutes recorded by: Trevor S. Hale

Date and Time: February 16, 2016 2:30 PM

Room Number: A300

Attendance: Ryan Pepper (President), Susan Henney (Past-President), Carolyn Ashe (President-elect), Trevor Hale (Secretary), Pat Williams, Anne Kane, Claude Rubinson, Steven Coy, Dvijesh Shastri, Azar Rejaie, Maria Benavides, Katharine Jager, Keith Wright, Kendra Mhoon, Susan Baker, Michael Connell, Charles Smith, Bernardo Pohl, Hsiao-Ming Wang, Pamela Hurley, Karen Kaser, Erin Hodgess (proxy for Steve London from MS Department).

Guests: Ed Hugetz, Faiza Khoja, Lucy Bowen

Regrets: N/A

On leave: Steve London, Jillian Hill

Absent: Jane Creighton, Zhenyu Zhang, Robin Jose

Call to Order: 2:35 PM

Meeting Proceedings

Announcements:

1. Senators are encouraged to attend a Meet and Greet with Interim President Olivas on February 26 at 10:00 AM in Room A701.
2. The March 1 Faculty Senate meetings will be held in room C100.
3. The March 15 Faculty Senate will be held on March 22 in room C100.
4. Interim president Olivas will host a reception on Monday, February 29 at 2:00 PM in the new Welcome Center.
5. FSEC has provided a pool of faculty names to Chancellor Khator as potential members of the UHD Presidential Search Committee. One name was provided to the Chancellor from each of the ten departments plus one from University College despite not receiving any nominees from the FAEIS and SOS department chairs.

Approval of Minutes:

1. Faculty Senate President Pepper asked that any approval of the February 2 Faculty Senate meeting minutes be delayed till the next Faculty Senate meeting. Hearing no objection, meeting minutes rescheduled for March 1.

Presentation by Steve Coy, Chair, Faculty Senate Task Force on Online Cheating.

1. The Task Force met with Interim Provost Hugetz to discuss ideas in the TTLC.
2. Ideas included student authentication procedures, making noneedtostudy.com obsolete, and requiring departments to put forth minimum standards for courses.
3. Senator Coy indicated that the Task Force would likely bring forth a resolution for the entire Senate to consider in the near future.

Presentation by Sue Henney, Chair, Faculty Senate Task Force on IDEA Student Evaluation System.

1. The Task Force met recently to discuss direction.
2. The Task Force will meet again and report back to the Faculty Senate.

Presentation by Faculty Senate President Ryan Pepper, Resolution Concerning PS 10.A.01.

1. Notes were detailed by Faculty Senate President Pepper to pass on to FAC Chair Hagen from the Faculty Senate body as a whole.
2. 13 separate resolutions for 3rd read and vote:

UHD FACULTY SENATE RESOLUTION(S)

REGARDING: PS 10.A.01

February 16th, 2016

1. ***WHEREAS*** associate professors voting on candidates for promotion to professor raises concerns of quid pro quo or the perception of quid pro quo;
BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to remove all references and language allowing associate professors to vote on promotions to full professor or add the necessary language to prevent it.

For __ 8 __ Against __ 10 __ Abstain __ 3 __

2. ***WHEREAS*** the language regarding abstentions, absents, and recusals in the voting process is unclear in that it states: "Fifty percent of all members of the department rank and tenure committee must vote "yes" to register a positive vote result." in section 2.3.4 of PS 10.A.01, which could result in a negative outcome if more than 50% recuse themselves, are absent, or abstain from voting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to clarify the language in the policy regarding abstentions, absents, and recusals -- with

regards to what constitutes a positive vote result as specified in 2.3.4.

For 20 Against 0 Abstain 1

3. **WHEREAS** the policy does not address the possibility of voting electronically and/or in absentia;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to add language to allow for voting electronically and/or in absentia.

For 16 Against 3 Abstain 2

4. **WHEREAS** the section on confidentiality (2.2.6) is unclear, if not contradictory;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to clarify the section on process confidentiality.

For 20 Against 0 Abstain 1

5. **WHEREAS** the policy is inflexible in the face of increasingly large departments, multidisciplinary departments, and increasing service workloads by requiring all members of a department Rank and Tenure Committee to vote on each and every candidate's application for promotion and does not permit departments to delegate this responsibility to subcommittees;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to add language to allow department rank and tenure committees to appoint sub-committees for promotion decisions for candidates.

For 8 Against 12 Abstain 1

6. **WHEREAS** the last phrase of 2.2.5.4, "...but a minimum of six years as an associate professor is strongly recommended." is being used as a de facto requirement, which puts it in opposition with UH System Administrative Memorandum 06.A.09, is not present in the R&T documents of the other schools in the UH system, is discouraging of noteworthy and accelerated achievements, and biases promotions to full professor towards seniority over merit;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to remove the last phrase of 2.2.5.4, "...but a minimum of six years as an associate professor is strongly recommended."

For 12 Against 5 Abstain 3

7. **WHEREAS** the parenthetical reference in section 2.3.4 to PS 10.A.05 is to the wrong section, and unnecessary anyway since the departments development of their promotion criteria may be different from their annual performance evaluation policy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to remove the parenthetical reference to PS 10.A.05 from section 2.3.4.

For 19 Against 0 Abstain 1

8. **WHEREAS** there is currently no clear indication of whether or not Associate Deans, who are considered Administrative Staff, are allowed to apply for promotion, even

though there is clear indication that both Department Chairs and College Deans (who are also considered Administrative Staff) can apply for Promotion;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to add a section to the policy (section 2.2.5.5) explicitly allowing Associate Deans who are Associate Professors to apply for promotion to Professor.

For 16 Against 2 Abstain 2

9. **WHEREAS** the numbering of the sections goes from 2.3.7 to 2.3.9 without having a 2.3.8;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to correct the numbering after section 2.3.7.

For 19 Against 0 Abstain 0

10. **WHEREAS** an additional rank of Distinguished Professor added to the R&T policy could further incentivize Professors to continue contributing at high levels in all three areas of Teaching, Service, and Research /Scholarship, as well as reward those Professors who have made significant academic achievements while at that rank;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to add the rank of Distinguished Professor to the R&T policy, as a further promotion that Professors can apply for.

For 7 Against 10 Abstain 2

11. **WHEREAS** there is variation in how departments write 2nd and 4th year reviews, department R&T committees are not expected to write these reviews, and having only one letter by two bodies who both vote for promotion and tenure decisions may hide differing opinions between those two groups;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the UHD Faculty Affairs Committee to add language to section 2.3.2, and clarify accordingly, indicating that 2nd and 4th year review letters are written by both the Department R&T committees and by the Department Chair.

For 17 Against 0 Abstain 1

12. **WHEREAS** in section 2.3.6 the policy mandates that Deans notify candidates whose promotion cases have gone forward (out of the college), as well as candidates whose promotion cases have not gone forward, by the third Wednesday of January, and this is not being done in at least two colleges;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Senate urges the Provost to enforce the section 2.3.6 paragraph concerning Dean notification to candidates, whose portfolios have gone forward, by the third Wednesday in January.

For 18 Against 0 Abstain 0

13. **WHEREAS** the Procedures of the University R&T Committee, section 2.3.7.2, clearly indicate that those members of that committee supporting a candidacy and those members of that committee not supporting a candidacy both write and send forward

reports explaining the reasons for their support or lack of support, yet for many years there has been only one letter coming from that committee even in cases where the votes were split, potentially damaging or otherwise influencing the decisions of the President and Provost with respect to that candidacy;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT *the Faculty Senate urges the Provost to enforce the section 2.3.7.2 paragraph concerning the University R&T Committees drafting, and sending forward, two reports – one for those supporting the candidacy and one for those not supporting it.*

For 18 Against 0 Abstain 0

Old Business:

N/A

New Business:

N/A

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Faculty Senate is March 1st in C100.

Adjourn:

Adjournment at 4:01 PM.