3:30 Welcome and Call to Order

3:30 Approval of the minutes from the March 8, 2018 meeting
   - Motion to approve Tamika Odum // Minutes approved 3:32

3:32 Report of the Chair – Sally Moomaw
   - Life of the Mind
       Michael Sharp // Regional Colleges – Helene Harp
   - Admissions up, confirmations up, acceptance rate not as high
     o UCBA and Clermont up substantially
   - Elections are ongoing, faculty will receive when they close
   - Special recognition to Senators Rich Miller and Greg Loving for their service and awards
     received this week at the Faculty Awards ceremony

3:35 Report of the President – Neville Pinto
   - Information regarding Dean COM
     o COM Dean Bill Ball to retire on 8-1-18
     o Previous to Dean Ball the position was split with Dean of COM and Senior VP for
       Health Affairs
     o Committed to a smooth transition
     o Will select an Interim position that fills both Dean and Senior VP
     o Permanent hire is to be split between Senior VP and Dean of Medicine
       ▪ Dean will report to Provost
     o Return to this alignment is desired by Department Chairs and Deans of the
       Academic Health Center
   - Current retention rates at 86.1%
     o Good but to be the best we need to get to 92%
     o Wants to focus on strategy to reach that goal
   - Graduation rates currently at 69%
     o Desire to be in the 82-83 %
     o Drives our reputation and the quality that we provide our students
     o Q // Where is the funding to assist with this process
     o A // Need to work on resources and potential reallocation
- Thank you to Sally Moomaw for our Faculty Awards
- Metrics as part of understanding Retention and Graduation rates
  - Data has been collected, being analyzed, FS will receive a report as well as individual colleges
- Dean searches are ongoing
  - Please participate as you can
  - Requests for faculty involvement
- Faculty Enrichment Center
  - Please participate and provide your feedback to create the most successful
- All faculty need to complete accessibility course as part of your Blackboard

3:58  **Report of the AAUP President – Ron Jones**
- Greg Loving reporting
  - Fair Share assessment of dues is most likely to be removed when Supreme Court decision is rendered in June
  - There may be a voluntary fair share agency fee
  - This is a constitutional issue so effective immediately not in future
    - Contingency planning is ongoing
    - Will result in a 50% budget cut
    - Dues increase contingent on the Supreme Court decision
      - First time in history of UC AAUP
      - Staff will be reduced

4:20  **Report on Emeriti Faculty – Sally Dunn**
- Provided a general update on Emeriti and how they can be effective going forward

4:28  **IT Update – Nelson Vincent, Vice President and CIO for Information Technology**
- **No Report**

4:28  **Open Access update - Xuemao Wang, Dean of UC Libraries**
- Mark Konecny co-presenting
- Textbook costs – Letter from US Senate (Appendix A)
  - Propose that FS start the conversation on how to control these costs
  - Utilizing open educational resources
  - Request that faculty begin to make their own decisions on appropriate material
  - Needs to be university wide, if not it will be legislated upon us
- Archiving intellectual material of our faculty through Scholar@UC
  - Small percentage of faculty currently participate
  - Desire open access but can be restricted
  - Asking Senate to participate and therefore build this repository

4:48  **Unfinished Business**
- **No Report**
New Business

- **Resolution on Hybrid Course Scheduling to Support Veterans** – Bruce Davis, Chair, FS Governance (Appendix B)
  - Senator Davis explained the rationale behind the resolution and read the resolution
  - Motion to approve // Resolution approved

- **Resolution on Change of Date to Withdraw from Classes** – Tamika Odum, Chair, FS Academic Affairs and Doug Burgess, University Registrar (Appendix C)
  - Senator Odum presented rationale behind the resolution
  - Motion to approve // Resolution approved
    - Two voted no

- **Resolution on Student Conduct Disciplinary Action Notation on Transcripts** - Tamika Odum, Chair, FS Academic Affairs and Doug Burgess, University Registrar (Appendix D)
  - Senator Odum presented rationale behind the resolution
  - Mr. Burgess answered questions regarding what can and cannot be placed on the document
    - Permissible only to the transcript, may not be released to employers
    - Mistakes can be removed at a later time
    - Rationale is to be pro-active, responsive to our community peers
    - Can student be hurt irrevocably? Have these conversations occurred?
      - Multiple processes go into an informed decision; this is a part of it
      - Transparency
      - These are serious conduct offenses not cheating, etc.
      - Transcript does not contain details, only the fact of their dismissal
  - Motion to approve // Resolution approved
    - Two voted no

- **Recommendation on Grade Forgiveness** - Tamika Odum, Chair, FS Academic Affairs Committee
  - Senator Odum presented rationale behind the recommendation
  - Request for feedback

5:00 Motion to adjourn accepted 5:13

Respectfully Submitted,
Dan Carl, Senator
April 13, 2018

The Honorable Roy Blunt  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on  
Labor, Health and Human Services,  
Education, and Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray:

Thank you for providing $5 million in the recently completed Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Omnibus appropriations bill for a pilot program to support the creation and expand the sustainable use of quality open college textbooks. We write today to ask that you build on this initial federal investment by including $10 million in the FY 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (Labor-H) appropriations bill for the pilot program. Open textbooks help make the cost of college more affordable for students and can improve educational outcomes by ensuring students are not forced to do without required course materials due to cost.

Textbook costs are one of the most overlooked costs of going to college, but they can be substantial and create an unnecessary barrier to completion. Unlike tuition and many of the other costs associated with college, students often feel textbook costs up front. The College Board estimates that the average student at a four-year public institution of higher education spent $1,250 on college books and supplies during the 2017-18 academic year. A single book can often cost hundreds of dollars.

And over the years, those prices have continued to climb. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, textbook prices increased by nearly 90 percent between 2006 and 2016. As a result of these high costs, some students do not purchase required course materials — putting themselves at an academic disadvantage. A survey by U.S. PIRG found that 65 percent of students decided not to buy a textbook because of the cost and 94 percent of those students worried it would negatively affect their grade.

Open textbooks — educational resources that are licensed under an open license and made available free of charge to the public — provide quality alternatives to traditional textbooks. Each time a faculty member substitutes a traditional textbook with an open textbook, students save money. But over time, the expanded use of open textbooks has the potential to inject healthy competition into the traditional textbook market — bringing overall prices down. Open textbooks
can also improve instruction by providing greater flexibility for faculty members to adapt and customize materials to meet their specific needs.

Open textbooks are beginning to be embraced by colleges and universities as both an affordability tool and a way to improve student learning outcomes. Some states have also begun investing in open textbooks and seen proven results – with projects in North Dakota and Georgia estimated to have saved students more than ten times the original investment. Additional federal support at this critical juncture would greatly increase the impact for students.

Students across the country are calling on us to make college more affordable. Thank you for hearing those calls in FY 2018 and providing the first ever dedicated federal investment for open textbooks. We urge you to continue to stand with students and build on that investment as you develop the FY 2019 Labor-H appropriations bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator

Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator

Tina Smith
United States Senator

Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

Jack Reed
United States Senator

Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator
Appendix B

Resolution

WHEREAS, UC has many student veterans.

WHEREAS, many of these student veterans receive a stipend for housing and living expenses.

WHEREAS, UC offers hybrid courses that are taken by student veterans.

WHEREAS, the amount of the stipend is reduced to ½ for online courses.

WHEREAS, the VA considers any class that is less than 51% face to face an “online course.”

WHEREAS, on Catalyst, hybrid courses are listed as “Partially DL 26-74%.”

WHEREAS, the VA considers such a class to be an “online course” because it could be less than 51% face to face, even if the face to face element is actually 51% or greater.

WHEREAS, this results in student veterans receiving only ½ of their stipend when taking hybrid courses.

WHEREAS, there is no mechanism in Catalyst to indicate that a hybrid course is at least 51% face to face.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the UC Registrar is hereby requested to add a category to Catalyst of “Partially DL 26-49%” to allow certain hybrid courses to qualify for full VA stipend for student veterans, and a category of “Partially DL 50-74%” for other courses.

Appendix C

Resolution in Support of a Change of Date to Withdraw for Each Full Semester

Whereas the current final date to withdraw from a course is the Friday of the 10th week of each full term;

Whereas faculty and colleges regularly sign forms requesting late withdrawals well after the 10th week deadline;

Whereas the current date significantly impacts the work of the University Registrar’s office;

Whereas the registrar has requested a change in the final date;

Therefore be it resolved that the University of Cincinnati Faculty Senate supports a change of date to withdraw from a course to the Friday of the 12th week of each full term.
Appendix D

Resolution in Support of Student Conduct Disciplinary Action Notation on the Official UC Transcript.

Whereas the University of Cincinnati’s official transcript historically has been solely the primary record of a student’s academic history, progress and academic standing at UC;

Whereas safety and accountability are significant priorities for the University of Cincinnati;

Whereas we recognize the most egregious acts of misconduct may result in the involuntary separation of a student from the University of Cincinnati following the Student Code of Conduct misconduct process;

Whereas such misconduct may indicate a pattern of behavior that might be repeated at a subsequent institution;

Whereas national high profile cases of student misconduct have led to increased pressure for accountability, transparency, and student safety at universities;

Whereas the University of Cincinnati should provide transcript notation when a student has committed egregious academic or behavioral misconduct such as, but not limited to, homicide, sexual assault, burglary, arson, theft, aggravated assault, destruction/damage of property, plagiarism and documental falsification and when the behavior has resulted in mandatory separation from the university;

Whereas such disciplinary sanction on a student’s transcript is legally permissible under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA);

Therefore be it resolved that the University of Cincinnati shall include notation on the student’s official transcript when a student is found responsible for egregious academic or behavioral misconduct as defined in the University of Cincinnati Student Code of Conduct that has resulted in mandatory separation from UC.

April 19, 2018