

Report from Dr. Sally Moomaw, Chair of the University Faculty

December 13, 2016

Good morning Chairman Richardson, members of the Board, President Davenport, and guests.

The Fall All University Faculty meeting was held on November 9. Interim President Davenport spoke about brand alignment, diversity initiatives, safety and reform, the uptown consortium, innovation, global engagement, the master planning committee, and the bicentennial campaign. Faculty reconvened at Zimmer Auditorium to hear Professor Derald Wing Sue's presentation on Micro-Aggressions. I want to thank Bleuzette Marshall, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer, for including the Faculty Senate in this important event.

As I reported in October, several university committees are working to improve the curriculum for diversity, equity, and inclusion for all students. The Committee on Diversity and Inclusion in the Curriculum, co-chaired by Gisela Escoe, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, Tracy Herrmann, Past Chair of the Faculty Senate, and Bleuzette Marshall, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion, has created a report on Proposed Enhancement of General Education Student Learning Outcomes in Support of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. The working group on Creation of Inclusive Classrooms, co-chaired by Vignesh Subbian, Robin Selzer, and Jennifer Malat, has issued a report titled Creating Inclusive Learning and Research Environments, which identifies key concepts and recommendations for faculty. At its November 10 meeting, Faculty Senate passed resolutions supporting the work of both of these committees. These resolutions are posted on the Faculty Senate website.

Senate Committees have been very active. The Governance Committee, chaired by Gowribalan Vamadeva, is examining mechanisms for promoting understanding and training in shared governance at the college level; creating more opportunities for part-time faculty to participate on university committees and governing entities; and updates and clarifications to Senate Bylaws. The Research and Scholarship Committee, chaired by Richard Miller, is evaluating the possible need and mechanisms for streamlining the IRB process; issues involving interdisciplinary research for faculty and students; and the need for more information and training on Export Controls for faculty. Academic Affairs, chaired by Laura Nabors, has made recommendations regarding faculty needs related to Universal Design for Learning; reviewed committee reports and developed resolutions supporting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; and has provided input to athletics, the UC bookstore, and student government regarding initiatives. This represents just a small amount of work currently being carried out by Faculty Senate.

Faculty have expressed concerns about an Ohio legislature bill, HB 48, that would allow concealed carry guns on college campuses, subject to the approval of each institution's Board of Trustees. Faculty Senate passed a resolution in opposition to this bill on February 11, 2016 and is expected to reaffirm this opposition at the December 8 Senate meeting. Senate Cabinet feels that this is a particularly sensitive time at the University of Cincinnati due to the shooting death of Samuel Dubose and the upcoming retrial of Ray Tensing. Students need to know this is a safe environment in order to express and discuss difficult emotions.

On behalf of the Faculty Senate, I would like to thank Chairman Richardson for his long service on the Board of Trustees, for his leadership as Chair of the Board, and for his dedication to the students at the University of Cincinnati.

Thank you, Chairman Richardson, for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the faculty.

This concludes my report for the December 13, 2016 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Moomaw, EdD

Chair of the University of Cincinnati Faculty