

Report from Professor Tracy Herrmann, Chair of the University Faculty

April 13, 2016

Hello and good morning, Chairman Richardson, members of the Board, President Ono, and guests. As we put the finishing touches on spring semester, I would like to share an update on the recent activities of the Faculty Senate.

The faculty senate is working through spring election processes for committees and faculty senate positions such as the Board of Trustees representative. In February, the Faculty Senate approved two resolutions—the first resolution was in support of diversity and inclusion initiatives at UC and the second resolution was in opposition to concealed carry on campus. In March, the Faculty Senate approved two additional resolutions—the first requested the inclusion of the Faculty Chair or a designee on the University Budget Committee and the second was in support of the University Press. The full text for each of these resolutions is available on the Faculty Senate website at <http://www.uc.edu/facultysenate/governance.html>.

In addition, the third installment of the re-formatted Life of Mind speaker series was held on March 29, 2016. This lecture series is a joint effort of the President, the Libraries and the Faculty Senate. The series is designed to recognize the excellence of University of Cincinnati faculty while creating an opportunity for provocative intellectual conversations. The spring lecture, presented by Dr. Heidi Maibom, Professor of Philosophy, of the McMicken College of Arts & Sciences, was titled “Know Others to Know Thyself: Uses and Misuses of Taking Another’s

Perspective”. A distinguished faculty panel and Chair Rob Richardson provided unique and insightful perspectives regarding the topic in conversation with the speaker and the audience.

In response to calls for action from students, advocates and President Ono, an initiative dedicated to the incorporation of diversity and inclusion in the undergraduate curriculum is in progress under the joint leadership of Kamree Maull, Gigi Escoe, Bluezette Marshall, Anwar Mhajne and I. Two input sessions were held with over 50 faculty, staff, and student volunteers. Four working groups have been formed and charges for those groups to address the inclusive classroom, the general education framework, faculty development, and the creation of courses and modules. I would like to thank all students, staff and faculty who have been involved and volunteered for this important work to date. This will be a multi-year process for implementation and I look forward to seeing how the great minds at UC take on this challenging, sensitive, and important topic.

In would like to close by thanking Peter Stambrook and Andrew Naab for their service and dedication to shared governance. Thank you, Chairman Richardson, for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the faculty. This concludes my report for the April 13th, 2016 meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,
Professor Tracy Herrmann
Chair of the University of Cincinnati Faculty