



2014-2015

FACULTY SENATE
ANNUAL REPORT
UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

UNIVERSITY OF 
Cincinnati

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LETTER FROM THE FACULTY CHAIR:

As the Chair of the Faculty and of the Faculty Senate, I am excited to share our accomplishments over the past year. I focused my time as chair on the six key goals listed below.

- 1. Increase participation of faculty in the senate, on committees, and at the All University Faculty meeting, graduation and convocation.*
- 2. Provide a system for faculty to share ideas and collaborate—support interdisciplinary research.*
- 3. Highlight faculty excellence in all three areas—research, teaching and service—and increase awareness of teaching and service.*
- 4. Identify common faculty topics for consideration and concern.*
- 5. Collaborate with students to make improvements in their educational experience.*
- 6. Improve faculty access to information and develop the role of faculty in eLearning.*

To increase participation of faculty, I consulted with the faculty senate and cabinet to fill vacant and new committee positions and provided updates to faculty regarding university and faculty activities. I worked with faculty senate cabinet members and the IT@UC staff to further develop faculty representation within the IT governance structure via new elected and appointed faculty positions. There is more work to do in this area especially regarding faculty attendance at All University Faculty meetings, convocation, and graduation as well as the need for more nominees for standing and all university committees. As such, I ask that you please consider attending these important faculty and student functions and consider nominating yourself for a committee.

Interdisciplinary research, eLearning, and faculty excellence were also addressed through our work this year. You will find information about the initiatives related to interdisciplinary research in the Research and Scholarship Committee report on page

17. ELearning is highlighted in the report from the Taskforce on Distance Learning and Online Teaching on page 18 and the IT Committee report on page 14. I am impressed by the great work of our faculty and the IT@UC staff in support of eLearning here at UC. In an effort to highlight faculty excellence in research, teaching, and service, I've shared a common message about the importance of these elements of our work as faculty with the President, the Provost and the Board of Trustees through meetings and reports. Minutes for the Board of Trustees meetings are available at <http://www.uc.edu/trustees.html>. In addition, the UC Library and Faculty Senate partnered to reinvigorate the Life of Mind Lecture. The Life of Mind lecture is designed to highlight faculty excellence. Dr. Jeffrey Whitsett showed a provocative presentation titled "The Impact of the Acceleration of Transforming Technologies in Medicine and the Biological Sciences" last spring. The next Life of Mind lecture is planned for September 29, 2015. In the upcoming year I plan to continue work in these areas and to request support for additional initiatives from the Faculty Senate standing committees.

The Faculty Senate brings faculty together from across the University. The University of Cincinnati has a strong commitment to shared governance, as evidenced by the University's Integrated Decision Making Process. Within this process, the Faculty Senate and the Chair of the Faculty are in regular communication with Provost Davenport, President Ono, and the AAUP. The Faculty Senate and the Chair of the Faculty also work closely with both the undergraduate and graduate student governance bodies on policy issues. Minutes from the Faculty Senate meetings are available on the Faculty Senate website at www.uc.edu/facultysenate. This year discussions with administrative and student representatives were related to student and faculty diversity and retention, cluster hires, international strategies, safety, weather closings and more. Adjunct faculty senators also discussed faculty development, space, pay

and assignment concerns with administration.

As the Chair of the Faculty, I served on many committees and in a number of roles. Those that were most rewarding involved work that brought together students, administrators and faculty in an effort to improve our University and the experiences provided in and out of the classroom. Shared governance is critical to our success and intellectual growth. Higher education continues to be challenged by both our state and federal governments and changes in society as a whole. Many of these challenges are well-intended such as making education accessible to all, decreasing cost to students, shortening time to degree, increasing number of and improving jobs for graduates, etc. However, these and other challenges potentially infringe upon our livelihood and academic integrity. It is shared governance that provides faculty voice in this important conversation; faculty participation in institutional governance isn't a privilege- it's a necessary part of decision-making in colleges and universities.

In the upcoming year, a Joint Committee of administrators and faculty will investigate faculty issues outside of the AAUP contract negotiations starting with faculty retention and faculty searches. The faculty senate will also work with the student governments regarding the possibility of a tobacco free campus and the issue of textbook affordability. Please contact me with any additional topics you believe should be considered by the Faculty Chair and the Faculty Senate in the upcoming academic year. I hope you find this report useful and informative. I look forward to working with you and continuing the important work of shared governance here at UC. Thank you for your attention.

*Respectfully,
Tracy Herrmann, MEd, RT(R)
Professor of Allied Health UC Blue Ash College
University of Cincinnati Faculty Chair*

ABOUT THE FACULTY SENATE

<http://www.uc.edu/facultysenate.html>

PURPOSE OF THE FACULTY SENATE:

3361:50-3-02 University faculty: bylaws, Article III. The faculty senate, Section 1. Purpose

A Faculty Senate ("Senate") shall exist in order to exercise the powers of the Faculty in the interim between its meetings.

THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE FACULTY SENATE:

3361:50-3-02 University faculty: bylaws, Article III. The faculty senate, Section 2. Powers and duties

The primary duty of the Senate is to consider and, if necessary, act on matters referred to it by the President, the Faculty, or by any member of the Faculty. In addition to initiating actions on these referred matters, the Senate will consider and act on other pertinent matters relating to the missions and operation of the University. Every action taken on matters affecting the University shall be reported to the Faculty by the Chairperson in a timely manner, but no later than at its next regular meeting.

WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF THE FACULTY SENATE?

3361:50-3-02 University faculty: bylaws, Article III. The faculty senate, Section 3. Membership

The Senate shall be composed of the following members ("Senators"):

a. Ex Officio Members. Persons holding the following positions are ex officio members of the Faculty Senate:

1. The President.
2. The Chairperson.
3. The Secretary.
4. The Vice Chairperson.
5. The Board Representatives.
6. The Past Chairperson.
7. The Chairperson-Elect.

b. At-Large Senators. Eight Senators will be elected from the Faculty at-large ("At-Large Senators"). At-Large Senators will serve for a term of two years. The term shall commence on the first day of the first month of the new academic year. At-Large Senators may be re-elected for a subsequent term. After two consecutive terms on the Senate, an At-Large Senator may not serve as an At-Large Senator for a period of two years.

c. Unit Senators. Senators that represent a particular unit of the Faculty ("Unit Senators") are described below. Unit Senators will serve for a term of two years. The term shall commence on the first day of the first month of the new academic year. Unit Senators may be re-elected for a subsequent term. After two consecutive terms on the Senate, a Unit Senator may not serve as a Unit Senator for that unit for a period of two years.

Full Time Faculty. Two Senators will be elected from each of the degree-offering units of the University, the division of professional practice, and collectively all the libraries of the University. If degree-offering units are restructured, the current Senators will retain their unexpired terms.

Emeriti. One Senator will be elected by the emeriti faculty.

Part-Time Faculty. Two Senators will be elected from that group of part-time faculty who are scheduled to teach a minimum of two semester courses or the equivalent per year (up to 65% of a full-time faculty position) and who have taught as part-time faculty at the University for three years or more.

Pluralism. No Faculty member may hold more than one seat on the Senate at the same time.

APPROVED RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE PROPOSED OHIO HOUSE LEGISLATION ON PROPRIETARY TEXTBOOKS

“THEREFORE, the University of Cincinnati Faculty Senate does not support legislation restricting proprietary textbooks in Ohio colleges and universities.”

APPROVED BY FACULTY SENATE ON DECEMBER 11, 2014

http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/facultysenate/senate/docs/resolutions/20142015resolutions/A%20RESOLUTION%20REGARDING%20THE%20PROPOSED%20OHIO%20HOUSE%20LEGISLATION%20ON%20PROPRIETARY%20TEXTBOOKS%2012_11_14.pdf

COMMENCEMENT OF FALL AND SPRING SEMESTERS 2016-2017 AND 2017-2018

“BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate encourages the University Calendar and Examination Committee to move the start date of the Summer semester of the 2016-2017 academic year to Monday, May 9, 2016, the start date of the Fall semester of the same academic year to Monday, August 22, 2016, and to set the start date of the Spring semester of the same academic year to Monday, January 9, 2017.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate encourages the University Calendar and Examination Committee to move the start date of the Summer semester of the 2017-2018 academic year to Monday, May 8, 2017, the start date of the Fall semester of the same academic year to Monday, August 21, 2017, and to set the start date of the Spring semester of the same academic year to Monday, January 8, 2018.”

APPROVED BY FACULTY SENATE ON DECEMBER 11, 2014

http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/facultysenate/senate/docs/resolutions/20142015resolutions/Commencement%20of%20Fall%20and%20Spring%20Semesters%202016_2017%20and%202017_2018.pdf

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TOBACCO-FREE CAMPUS

“BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate requests that the University President and the Board of Trustees devote significant financial and professional resources to an effective smoking-cessation campaign targeted at every applicable member of the University community, to be launched as soon as practicable, and timed to ensure that no faculty, staff, or continuing student will be unable to thrive in a tobacco-free environment at its implementation.”

APPROVED BY FACULTY SENATE ON MAY 14, 2015

http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/facultysenate/senate/docs/resolutions/20142015resolutions/A%20RESOLUTION%20REGARDING%20THE%20IMPLEMENTATION%20OF%20A%20TOBACCO%20Approved%205_14_15.pdf

RESOLUTION REGARDING DISTANCE LEARNING

“THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Provost for Academic Affairs charge the faculty and administration in each unit/division/college to develop a policy for distance learning in courses and programs in their unit/division/college during the 2015-2016 academic year; that each report to the Provost that the policies have been created; and that the policies address and fall within the guidelines of the following:

- 1. Ensure adequate training of all faculty prior to teaching distance learning courses;*
- 2. Provide appropriate support of faculty with the unit, division, or college;*
- 3. Clarify workload expectations for DL courses, including relative obligations of faculty and facilitators within large enrollment classes;*
- 4. Identify faculty as having primary control of course content;*
- 5. Ensure protection of faculty Intellectual Property;*
- 6. Clarify the role of ID/IT support personnel;*
- 7. Identify the criteria for determining the creation of DL courses;*

8. Identify the maximum students per instructor/facilitator in DL courses;
9. Align, where appropriate, DL course/program expectations with face-to-face course/program.
10. Identify how DL courses/programs will be assessed and improved on an ongoing basis.

Rationale: The Academic Affairs Committee thoroughly researched the issues regarding distance learning courses, and their programs, from a faculty perspective. The report discusses this research, as well as the findings of the surveys and interviews. Since the University wishes to continue and expand distance taught courses and programs, and that there are few policies which faculty have had a voice in developing, the AAC found that the impetus needs to come from the chief academic advisor.

The AAC lists the important areas such policies need to include, but recognizes that the each unit, department or college has different and often unique needs. However, the faculty need to have a voice in the creation of such policies.

The AAC also found that this would need to be a full-year project to ensure that the policy was wellthought out, and that both faculty and administrators needed to work together. "

APPROVED BY FACULTY SENATE ON MAY 14, 2015

http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/facultysenate/senate/docs/resolutions/20142015resolutions/Distance%20Learning%20Resolution%205_14_2015.pdf

STANDING COMMITTEES:

AN INTRODUCTION

The faculty senate standing committees are comprised of faculty members who have been nominated by the faculty and elected by the faculty senate. All members of the university faculty (as defined in the University Faculty Bylaws) are eligible to serve. Faculty members participate on these committees to promote the sharing of ideas and opinions from a variety of perspectives. Committee members typically serve two year terms. A committee chairperson is appointed by the chairperson of the university faculty and serves on the Faculty Senate Cabinet.

The purpose of the standing committee structure is to promote participative governance and collaborative management of university processes and matters of interest. This structure allows faculty members the opportunity to share in collaborative decision-making and consensus building to support the achievement of the strategic goals of the University of Cincinnati.

The current standing committees are as follows:

- *Academic Affairs*
- *Budget and Priorities*
- *Governance*
- *Human Relations*
- *Information Technology*
- *Planning*
- *Research and Scholarship*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Committee Charge: *The charge of the committee is to make investigations and recommendations for Faculty Senate action on educational or academic policy or practice.*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

1. Committee members represented AAC on the following committees: Technology Backpack Distribution Committee; UC Press Task Force; Prior Learning Assessment; Faculty Career Awards; CET&L Associate Director Search Committee

2. Two resolutions were presented to Faculty Senate:
1) Opposition to proposed Ohio Textbook Bill (HB 616), which would prohibit faculty from using materials that they author in their own classrooms if they receive any remuneration, such as royalties; 2) Guidelines for programs to develop policies for online learning for approval by the Provost, based on the Task Force report

3. AAC approved a policy change for TRAC appeals. When a TRAC appeal is successful, the registration and grades may be removed from the transcript without involving faculty in the process of approving the grade change. Following a request by AAC, a provision was added whereby faculty will be notified when a grade has been changed due to this process.

4. Following a meeting with Registrar Doug Burgess, AAC provided information for faculty (January report) on items that will impact faculty as the university changes operating systems from UniverSIS to Catalyst.

5. AAC reviewed and provided feedback on the following documents: 1) Prior Learning Assessment – Portfolio Review; 2) Online Learning Task Force report; 3) proposed Policy on Residency; 4) Guidelines for Emergency Closures; 5) UC Mental Health Statement for syllabi; 6) College Credit Plus

Committee Membership:

Chair: Sally Moomaw (CECH)
Beverly Reigle (Nursing)
Rebecca Leugers (Allied Health)
Lisa Beckelhimer (A&S)
Chia-Chi Ho (CEAS)
Kathryn M. Rafferty (A&S)
Deborah Page (UCBA)

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

BUDGET AND PRIORITIES

Committee Charge:

The budget and priorities committee shall examine financial matters of the university and recommend to the faculty senate ordering of priorities for new funds and for reallocation of present resources, including specific dollar amounts. As feasible, the committee shall also suggest possible sources for new funding. One or more of its members may serve as faculty senate representative and liaison to all university committees responsible for budget and priorities."

Committee Membership:

*Chair: Chia-Chi Ho
Steven Boyce (Med)
Anastasios (Tasos) Ioannides
(CEAS)
Peter J. Disimile (CEAS)
Thomas Ridgway (A&S)
FenFang Hwu (A&S)
Kent Lutz (UCBA)*

Topics Discussed:

The committee has set the following priorities at the start of the academic year and met monthly and communicated frequently through emails to achieve the goals.

- a. Examine the university overall budget, capital and academic budget.*
- b. Examine the capital and debt management involved with buildings and facilities on and around campus.*
- c. Receive feedback from faculty and administration on the white paper from Budget and Priorities committee accepted by the senate last semester*
- d. Determine approaches to advance the third century initiative and academic excellent including setting FT tenure track hiring and retention as a priority, additional support for TA and tuition support for RA, and additional instructional support*
- e. Prioritize funds toward safety within and around the campus.*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

BUDGET AND PRIORITIES

Topics Discussed Continued:

Goal a: *The committee chair has updated FCC meeting to the committee and shared that Debi Gallo-way indicated that research will cost UC more than the revenue it generates. Decline in F&A revenue has been mitigated by reducing the workforce but deficits remain an issue. Two possible solutions being discussed include revision of the F&A distribution policy or increase Office of Research General funds have been proposed.*

Goal a: *The committee met with Daniel Langmeyer and reviewed "Annual Fund Accounting Schedules For the Year Ended June 30, 2014" and "University of Cincinnati Financial Statements as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014 and Independent Auditor's report." In particular, the discussion focused on Schedule C Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and other Changes for Current Funds. These reports are available for past years and can now be found in the Controller's website. The committee discussed the importance to align the University resources with the mission of the university.*

Goal a and b: *The committee met with Bob Ambach and Jim Plummer and reviewed ten year capital plan annual cash requirements and analysis of projected debt service with the inclusion of the ten year capital plan. Key financial data with comparison to select universities and future debt capacity has also been discussed. Significant debt load was a result of the Campus Master Plan and MSB project. There will be a decline in debt service after FY 2018 which will provide long term future flexibility. Bob has shared with the committee the budget and indicated 0 variance based on the existing information in May.*

Goal a and d: *In another meeting with Danial Langmeyer the PBB 100 for each UC Colleges, PBB primer, and a budget template was reviewed. PBB 100 reports are available and can be obtained from the college business offices. The committee had questions regarding to the line on the undesignated fund and plan to clarify this with Bob Ambach.*

Goal c and d: *The committee had a conversation with Provost Davenport to learn the feedback on the committee's April 4, 2014 report and learned shared her vision on faculty hiring. She indicated that strategic hiring is in addition to replacement lines for retiring faculty. With increasing enrollment, participation of high school students, and increasing number of faculty retiring, there is a need to hire more faculty. The impact of online courses, which may require more faculty at initial stages of implementation but ultimately less faculty effort, was discussed and more data is being gathered by institution research.*

Goal d: *The committee reviewed and discussed Letter from Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletic (COIA), a documentation from COIA titled "Framing the Future: Reforming Intercollegiate Athletics",*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

BUDGET AND PRIORITIES

Topics Discussed Continued:

background summary of COIA, the antitrust exemption issue. Discussion will continue with Ken (the Faculty Senate's representative to COIA) leading the effort on a resolution for consideration by the faculty senate.

Goal d: *The committee met with Mike Bohn and discussed the vision, historic budget and expenses of UC athletics, performance, Nippert stadium renovation project, and the proposal of Fifth Third Arena Renovation. The committee plan to invite him back next academic year for more details on the expenses and revenues to achieve balanced budget. The committee shared with mike the view to prioritize University Mission in academics and suggested approaches for improving the academic experiences of the athletics.*

Goal d: *The committee discussed the interest to learn more on the UC's current and future plans with Universities in China and how does "House Panel Plans to Scrutinize US Universities Ties with China" may affect the plan.*

Goal e: *The committee discussed how the new structure in public safety can help better communication of the strategy with public safety director Jason Goodrich and reviewer recent data on UC Clery timely Warning area crimes. The police officer has been increased to 70 and will continue overtime proactive patrol within the UC Clery Timely Warning Area and resident halls. Jason also indicated the need for K-9 for detection of explosive devices for the coming football season. The committee suggested 1. Develop a strategy to integrate with the Children's' hospital, VA, and Shriners Hospital to share the crime information 2. Focus on safety education for new students. 3. The committee strongly support the need for K-9 and additional staffs within public safety to ensure safety within and around the university.*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

1.) *To provide more continuous financial data and information for the committee, Peter Disimile has set up a drop box for all the data and reports the committee has reviewed and gathered this year for comparison with future years. All the financial data and budgets has been uploaded to this drop box.*

2.) *The committee suggested more interaction with the provost, a "Tea with the Provost" event, and increased focus on retaining faculty.*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

GOVERNANCE

Committee Charge:

The Governance Committee shall be responsible for on-going review of and revisions to the by-laws, clarifying and strengthening the involvement of faculty on university committees, assuring training for faculty serving on Faculty Senate and other university committees, monitoring governance policies and practices and recommending new policies and practices to ensure effective involvement of faculty in university decision making. In addition, the Governance Committee shall be available to assist faculty with governance issues occurring within their college or unit.

Committee Membership:

*Chair: Sean Mangan (Law)
Heather Moore (UCBA)
Carlee Escue Simon (CECH)
Lilit Yeghiazarian (CEAS)
Arlene Johnson (Libraries)
Cynthia Ris (A&S)
Suzanne Bradshaw (UCBA)*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

- 1.) Draft Re-Stated By-Laws, which were approved by the University Faculty.*
- 2.) Mapped out strategy for defining "shared governance" at UC, including an infrastructure for faculty education and communication on shared governance.*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

HUMAN RELATIONS

Committee Charge: *The charge of the committee is to monitor existing practices and policies and recommend new policies and practices to ensure a supportive environment for women and minority faculty and students.*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

1.) Met with Chief Diversity Officer Bleuzette Marshall to survey various Human Relations related current efforts. The meeting was educational and informative. Committee expressed availability to assist in any way necessary and discussed a brainstorm to create a one-stop directory showcasing various efforts around campus to build awareness, attract participation and minimize duplicate efforts.

2.) Chair and former winners reviewed and selected winners of the Faculty Senate University Service Award. Chair solicited applicants through the e-currents newsletter and encouraged 1st year applicants to update their nominations. Out of a strong pool of candidates, the winners were John McNay and Anton Harfmann.

3.) Discussed the interest and feasibility of Recognizing Faculty and Staff based on years of service. Dialogue regarding feelings about best ways to provide recognition as well as plans to survey and research opportunities to gain more insight. The Committee learned about UCBA (and possibly University-wide) efforts that are in place but not well-known. Committee ceased work on this initiative when receiving no response from the initiator despite several inquiries. Overall, the Committee strongly supports the idea of recognizing years of service with a plaque or nicely framed certificate and possibly additional tokens of appreciation.

4.) Committee weighed in on an email received questioning the judgment of the University for supporting the Gender F*uck Drag show on Good Friday. Members provided opinions to Faculty Chair and determined that the inquiry did not have much merit and was best left alone.

Committee Membership:

Chair: Datina Juran (ProPEL)

Ratee Apana (CoB)

Carrie Atzinger (CoM)

Jennifer Ellis (UCBA)

Wanda McCarthy (UC Clermont)

Ionas Aurelian Rus (UCBA)

Donna Shambley-Ebron (CoN)

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

HUMAN RELATIONS

Committee Activities & Key Actions Continued:

5.) Chair is seated on the University of Cincinnati Diversity Council

6.) Committee worked with Sean Magnan of the Governance Committee to update the Human Relations charge in the bylaws. The new descriptions now states that "The committee shall also administer award selection processes and Faculty recognition."

7.) Committee reviewed and supported the proposal of the "In Memoriam Award" when a posthumous degree is not an option.

8.) Chair attended the Ohio Women's Diversity Conference

9.) HR Committee is working with Senate Chair Tracy Herrmann and the UC Alumni Association's Myron Hughes to find ways to foster a better sense of community for diverse students, faculty and staff in hopes of improving overall positive experiences at the University. It is likely that action steps for the HR Committee will stem from these meetings.



**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Committee Charge:

The information technology committee shall formulate and express faculty views on information technology issues. Matters requiring faculty action shall be sent as recommendations to the faculty senate. The committee will recommend electronic voting procedural standards and tools that assure security, anonymity, and faculty control. The committee will offer consultation and training and when asked to do so may assess the legitimacy of software employed for soliciting faculty votes.

Committee Membership:

*Chair: Robert Rokey (CoB)
Josh Lorenz (Pharmacy)
John Hutton (Medicine)
David Hartz (Blue Ash)
Andy Curran (UC Clermont)
Charity Accurso (CAHS)
Dan Milz (CECH)
Nathan Tallman (Libraries)
Paul Talaga (CEAS)
Nikole Hicks (CoN)
Michele Griegel-McCord (A&S)
Rachel Frankel (UCBA)*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

- 1.) Reviewed Copyright Compliance in Courseware, Fair Use Checklist – UC Draft Teach Act*
- 2.) Nelson Vincent CIO and Chris Edwards gave an update on the status of IT at UC*
- 3.) Bogdan Vykhoyanyuk AVP, Kevin Shaffer and Geoffrey Costa presented an overview of security issues at UC. Also, presented UCIT Office of Information Security Team Charter. Faculty provided feedback indicating that the charter was well thought out.*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

INFORMATION **TECHNOLOGY**

Committee Activities & Key Actions Continued:

4.) Discussed Taskforce summary – faculty were concerned that the summary did not provided for enough faculty input. Also, issues of support, intellectual property and student's needs were raised.

5.) Douglas Burgess AVP, Cecily Goode Director SIS-Admin, Mark Faulkner SAVP and Caroline Miller Vice Provost presented the need for a mechanism to document student participation. Indicated that they would come back to present to the committee when they had a developed mechanism.



**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

PLANNING

Committee Charge: *The charge of the Planning Committee is to consider all aspects of planning, both curricular and physical.*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

1.) *Calendar Resolution to move dates for 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 academic years forward one week as was done for the 2015-2016 academic year. This recommendation was followed by the University Calendar and Examination Committee. This resolution passed at the January Faculty Senate Meeting.*

2.) *Planning Meetings for the Scioto Hall Replacement Building. Members of the Committee met with Urban Strategies and Mary Beth McGrew, the campus architect, to consider site planning strategies for the area between Sigma Sigma Commons and Jefferson Avenue.*

3.) *Members of the committee reviewed the Provost's Offices revised policy for emergency closure of the University campuses. The Committee's input was incorporated in part into the final draft document.*

4.) *Smoking Cessation Resolution requested that the University fund additional smoking cessation programs for faculty, staff, and students as the institution moves to being a tobacco-free campus as required by the 2015-2017 budget. This resolution passed at the May Faculty Senate Meeting.*

Committee Membership:

*Chair: Jeff Tilman (DAAP)
Dan Carl (CAHS)
Janine Harman (A&S)
Claudia Mitchell (CoN)
Laura Nabors (CECH)
Thomas Osborne (ProPEL)
Rina Williams (A&S)*

**STANDING
COMMITTEES**

RESEARCH & SCHOLARSHIP

Committee Charge: *The Research and Scholarship Committee shall consider all aspects of research and recommend policies, processes, or procedures designed to enhance the role of research and scholarship in the university. The committee shall make recommendations concerning the development and implementation of problems designed to support and reward research and scholarly activity. In addition, the committee shall examine, review, and make recommendations about proposals initiated by the administration and other parties.*

Committee Activities & Key Actions:

1.) *As a result of the Senate Bootcamp, the requests of Senate Chairwoman Tracy Herrmann, and the institutional focus of Provost Beverly Davenport, the committee chose to explore issues of cross-disciplinarity at UC. The committee sought to identify the current state of cross-disciplinary research, to uncover roadblocks, and to envision pathways for achieving it in more thorough and robust ways. Either the committee chairwoman or the entire committee met with several key stakeholders, including Drs. Bill Ball and Philip Taylor. They also collected feedback on these issues at the fall All-University Faculty Meeting. The committee used those conversations and data to construct a letter to the Provost, outlining our recommendations for how to improve cross-disciplinary research at UC. The committee also acted in other ways, including, in response to current lack of knowledge amongst faculty of the research directory, reaching out to the staff at UC Currents and other PR folks on campus to encourage them to provide directory listings in their stories about UC researchers. The committee also asked PR outlets to highlight stories of successful cross-disciplinary research at UC. The chairwoman of the committee also worked with related committees across campus on efforts to encourage and support cross-disciplinarity, largely housed in the office of Philip Taylor.*

2.) *In response to faculty concerns over the speed and processes overseen by the Institutional Review Board, the Research and Scholarship committee met with leadership from the IRB. The committee presented several problematic cases for consideration, each revealing key problems with the current IRB system and response time. The IRB leaders and committee worked together to generate concrete steps for alleviating the problems.*

Committee Membership:

*Chair: Sara Stitzlein (CECH)
Kevin Li (Pharmacy)
Lilit Yeghiazarian (CEAS)
Gail Pyne-Geithman (CoM)
Arlene Johnson (Libraries)
Rachel Frankel (UCBA)
Daria Narmoneva (CEAS)*

TASK FORCE ON DISTANCE LEARNING

Background: In April, 2013, this Faculty Senate Task Force was charged with creating a report relating to faculty best practices in online teaching at UC. A group of faculty had been in discussion concerning observed differences between units and colleges in the development and implementation of online teaching and had questions about practices or lack of clear practices; questions relating to these concerns led to the initial request for this Task Force.

recommendations for best practices in the following areas: clarification of the roles of various personnel, including faculty and Information Technology and Instructional Design (IT/ID) personnel; consideration of workload issues; addressing regulations relating to online teaching; and alignment of or distinction from face-to-face class delivery.

The committee represented and sought input from colleges in developing its recommendations, including input from faculty and administrators, which revealed the following concerns existing across the university:

- There are few to no clearly documented faculty-oriented policies for online teaching to guide curricular, workload, and other decisions;
- The lack of such guidelines creates confusion, inequities, and sub-optimal learning conditions at

Task Force Membership:

Chair: Cynthia Nitz Ris (A&S)
 Sharon Burns (UC Clermont)
 Melody Clark (Provost Office)
 Nikole Hicks (CoN)
 Deborah Page (UCBA)
 Kevin Raleigh (A&S)
 Eugene Rutz (CEAS)
 Alan W. Vespie (CAHS)

TASK FORCE SUMMARY REGARDING THE REPORT ON BEST PRACTICES IN DISTANCE DELIVERED AND HYBRID COURSES:

The goals of UC Third Century, UC2019, and the Academic Master Plan are to provide effective online teaching to meet student needs; however, concerns have been raised regarding a lack of consistent and clear practices and policies to promote this objective.

This Task Force was, therefore, charged with providing

TASK FORCE ON DISTANCE LEARNING

worst and a lack of direction at best;

- Faculty input is often not sought or included in decision-making;
- In some units, significant decisions regarding online learning are made by those without direct experience teaching in this modality and in a manner that is potentially at odds with effective student learning, equitable workload conditions, and without attention to related legal and other considerations; and
- While major eLearning committees exist within the University, there is relatively little faculty representation on those committees and there is no comparable faculty-led committee directly charged with promoting efficient and effective online teaching.

Specific recommendations to address these concerns are set out in the Task Force report. General guidelines regarding these recommendations may be summarized as follows:

1. Faculty must be integrally involved in decisions related to online teaching. This includes decisions as to recommendations by IT/ID personnel; the development of appropriate and equitable workload policies; curricular specifications for online courses from the development of courses to their delivery and assessment; requisite and appropriate faculty development; and alignment with face-to-face courses;
2. Where there are no principal distinctions between face-to-face and online courses, units must work to align curricular, workload, and other relevant expectations (e.g., Intellectual Property and FERPA); where there are relevant and principal distinctions between the modalities, such distinctions must be addressed and accommodated;
3. UC and its various units need to continue to provide needed support commensurate with the expectations of online teaching and to increase that support where necessary. This includes sufficient and appropriate opportunities for faculty development, IT/ID and structural support (e.g., a Learning Management System) that meet faculty needs, and adequate and timely sharing of information and resources available;
4. Faculty and administrators at all levels must work to clarify practices and policies relating to online learning and to document them where appropriate; this should include relevant creation or modification of unit by-laws, workload documents, and RPT documents; and
5. A Faculty Senate committee or subcommittee focused on online education must be formed to insure that the recommendations of the Task Force are promoted; to continue to assess and address the needs related to online teaching and learning; and to collaborate with relevant constituencies throughout the university.

2 March 2015

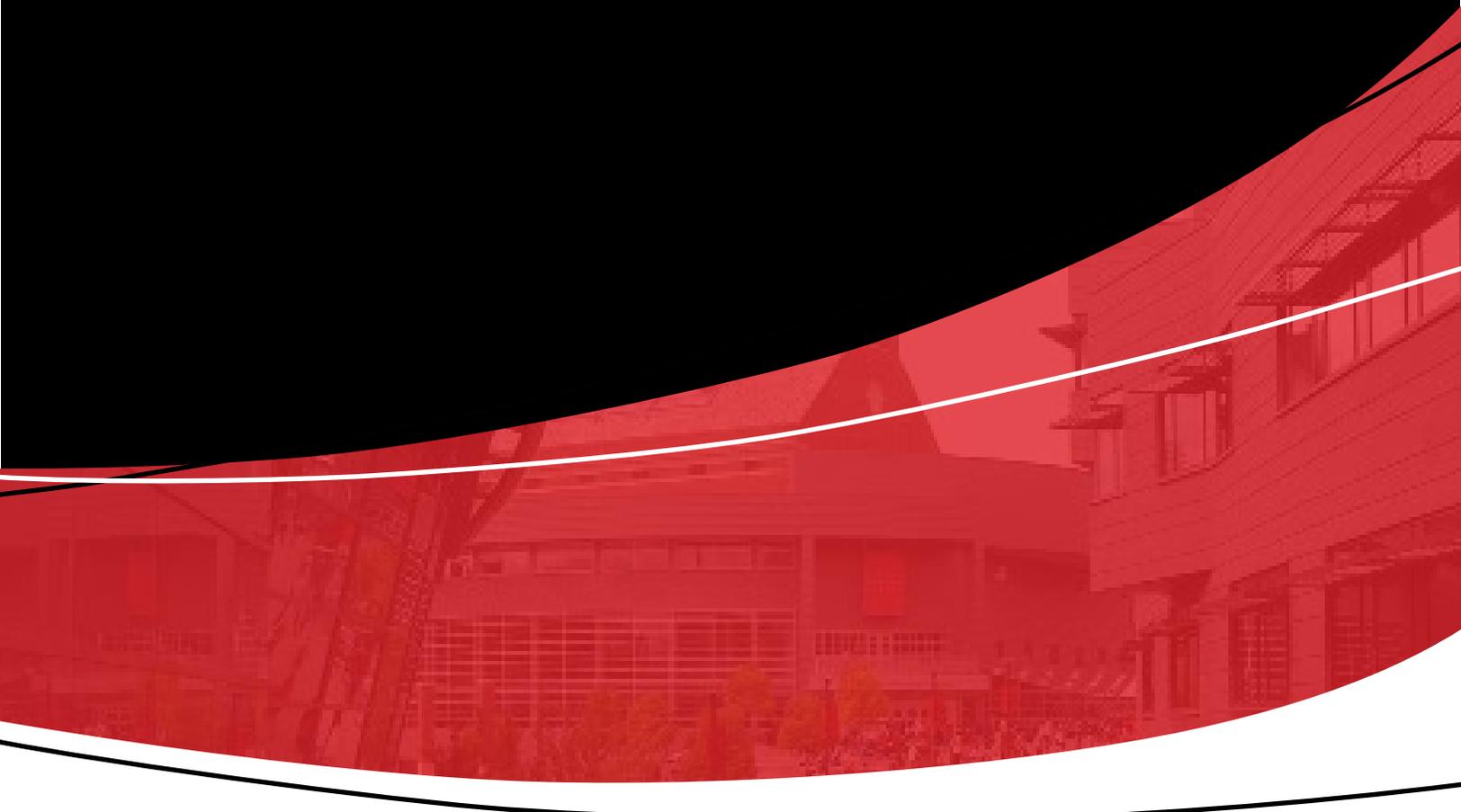
CONCLUSION:

A CLOSING NOTE FROM THE FACULTY CHAIR

I would like to close this report by thanking the members of the Faculty Senate. Faculty Senators serve as the conduit for information to and from the Faculty Senate, UC administration and the faculty at their colleges/units and provide faculty leadership in shared governance. In addition, I would like to thank all the faculty representatives who were members on committees or task forces for their willingness to serve the University community. I commend the dedication that each of these faculty members has shown in these critical and important roles.

*Respectfully,
Tracy Herrmann, MEd, RT(R)*





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