Senate Meeting  
September 20, 2010  
Minutes

Richard Harknett, Chair of the University Faculty, welcomed everyone to the first Faculty Senate meeting of the academic year.

1. Approval of the Modified Agenda. A motion was put forth to approve a modified agenda for the September 20 meeting. The motion to accept the modified agenda was unanimously approved.

2. Approval of the Minutes. The minutes of the June senate meeting were approved.

3. Elections to Faculty Senate Standing Committees and All-University Governance Committees. Tracy Herrmann presided over elections to fill positions that went unfilled at the spring Senate elections. Tracy Herrmann called for additional nominations from the floor. As there were none, the motion to end the nominations process was unanimously approved.

4. Report of the Chair, Richard Harnett
Chair Harknett brought forth a motion to approve the nominees for Chairs of the standing Faculty Senate committees for 2010-2011. The motion was unanimously approved.
Chair Harknett brought forth a motion to approve John Cuppoletti as Vice Chair for a one-year term. The motion was unanimously approved.

5. Report of the President of the University of Cincinnati, Gregory Williams
President Williams reviewed the September 19 Convocation and Presidential Investiture, and noted the great turn-out of faculty at the event. The President thanked Chair Harknett for organizing the Faculty Assembly event that followed Convocation. President Williams commented on the some of the thought provoking topics that came out of the discussion with Sir Ken Robinson, including ways in which we can bring back our own sense of creativity, how to make UC2019 a reality, and the importance of encouraging creativity and collaboration here at UC. President Williams noted that we are at a watershed moment at UC, with the largest number of students on campus this fall. The President then introduced Dr. Santa Ono, the new Provost, noting his many academic accomplishments and commitment to leading the institution forward.

6. Discussion with Provost Santa Ono
Dr. Ono thanked the Faculty Senate for the opportunity to engage in a discussion. Provost Ono indicated that President William’s plan, UC2019, moves the university to the next step. He identified the next joint task as taking the President’s vision and forming it into an academic master plan. The academic master plan will need to be flexible and clear, and it will ensure that ad hoc decisions will not be made. Provost Ono indicated that a clear academic plan will need to be aligned with the president’s priorities, and it will need to ensure that academics and finances are aligned. The latter is especially true for inter-disciplinary work. A diversity strategy will need to be aligned with the plan. An honest assessment, a diagnosis of the UC academic side of the house, will be the first step. The Provost indicated that he has already asked the Deans to provide assessments of strengths and weaknesses, and that the more difficult task will involve resource allocation. A key forum will be discussions between the Provost and each Dean. Another key forum for discussion will be in
meetings with faculty. Direct conversations with faculty will facilitate innovative ideas. Provost Ono welcomed direct contact from faculty. In the near future, he will create a faculty advisory committee with two to three people from each college. A steering committee will be appointed for the academic master plan.

Chair Harknett then introduced a distinguished faculty panel to begin a key dialog in the implementation of the President’s plan. The panelists included: Vernon Scarborough, Distinguished Research Professor (A&S, Anthropology); Ann Welsh, Cohen Award for Teaching Excellence and University Service Award (Business); Jana Braziel, Rieveschel Award for Creative and/or Scholarly Works (A&S, English); Jeffrey Robbins, Rieveschel Award for Distinguished Scientific Research (Medicine, Pediatrics); Terrence Milligan, Barbour Award for Faculty-Student Relations (CCM, Music); and Distinguished Teaching Professor Rodney Rodman (CEAS).

Provost Ono then responded to ideas put forward by the panelists. He indicated that an infrastructure is needed to facilitate and reward cross-disciplinary work. An intellectual gathering of the faculty would facilitate creativity, and Provost Ono gave as examples the “Life of the Mind” and “Luminary” series at Emory University. Potential informal gatherings of faculty were also discussed. Provost Ono called upon the faculty to reach out to him with ideas and creative thinking.

The text of Provost Ono’s remarks to the Faculty Senate can be referenced here: http://www.uc.edu/provost/doc/provost_communications/9-20-2010%20Remarks%20to%20FacultySenate.pdf

7. **New Business.** There were no items.

8. **Announcements.** Chair Harknett noted that the end of this meeting was the beginning of working together in the new academic year. A survey will be sent out to assist with shaping the agenda for the all-university faculty meeting on October 27.

9. **Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn: The motion to adjourn the September meeting of the Faculty Senate carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Arlene Johnson, Secretary of the Faculty Senate