1. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the March 10 senate meeting were approved.

2. **Report of the Faculty Chair, Richard Harknett**
   Chair Harknett welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chair opened discussion of his report, which was submitted earlier. The text of the report can be found on the Faculty Senate website. Chair Harknett highlighted the university budget, as well as two proposed additions to state legislation. The latter concerns faculty workload, specifically a call for faculty to teach one additional course per year, and the three year university degree. There was a concern expressed as to whether legislators understand that there are co-op programs at UC that necessitate a lengthier academic experience for students.

3. **Report of the President of the University of Cincinnati, Gregory Williams**
   President Williams focused on areas where we can have influence on the legislative process. The President indicated that we may end up with a 15% budget cut in state funding, which would be better than expected. President Williams met with Chancellor Petro at UC last week. Dr. Odell Owens and the President of Wright State joined the meeting. The President discussed the workload issue in relation to efficiency. Faculty taking on another course is not necessarily more efficient. Research is a consideration as well. President Williams noted that the three year B.A. is not the pattern with students at UC. A three year program could have a negative impact on co-op. The President spoke to the issue of tuition increase. The plan at UC is to think about a modest tuition increase of 3.5%, perhaps a total increase of 7% over two years with the latitude to use different rates in different years. On the issue of deregulation, President Williams noted that the Chancellor was very interested and had requested a list of mandates in front of us that makes things difficult. The President spoke to the issue of the charter/entrepreneurial university, and indicated that this did not mean privatization. It has always been the view that this would give us more authority. The President’s goal remains the same: that we are going to have to work together to achieve the goals that he has set out in UC2019. President Williams also spoke to the very favorable reception of the AMP (Academic master Plan) at a recent event related to year 1 of the AMP. The President referred to a recent very positive article on the AMP in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. President Williams then opened the discussion to questions. The following questions and comments were put forward:

   There was a request for clarification of the President’s comments regarding faculty productivity, since this is a very big issue and discussion for faculty.

   *President Williams noted that we need to show what we are doing effectively. There are advantages to having this discussion with the Chancellor.*

   What is the President’s vision of shared governance in the charter university environment?

   *President Williams indicated that he does not see it differently from what is in place now.*
What is the President’s relationship with the IUC? There have been disparaging remarks made about faculty by Mr. Bruce Johnson.

President Williams indicated that he sees this group as informational, a discussion group.

Does Mr. Johnson speak for President Williams?

President Williams indicated that Mr. Johnson speaks for the IUC.

4. **Presentation on State Budget and Issues for UC**

Vice President Bob Ambach provided an update on the FY2012/13 budget process. The full slide presentation will be added to the minutes. The planning for the budget began in September/October 2010. At that time, planning focused on what was expected at that time, a 25% decrease in state funding. Planning then centered around a 20% budget reduction. A 15% drop in state funding would amount to approximately $25 million. With the timeline of April to June for voting on the budget in the General Assembly, UC units were asked to plan for a 10-15% budget cut. Vice President Ambach indicated that the question arose as to whether the university should plan for a higher reduction in order to get money into reserves. He also noted that there continued to be shared governance conversations on the budget throughout this time period. The goal is to get a balanced budget to the UC Board of Trustees in June.

There was a question as to whether UC would receive the twelfth month payment that had been delayed. Vice President Ambach indicated that UC will see this payment in the amount of approximately $13 million. He also indicated that if the assumptions are not right at the state level, we may face a mid-year cut.

There was a question as to whether the monies are budgeted for semester conversion. Vice President Ambach indicated that there is money in place.

Vice President Bob Ambach’s slide presentation follows:

   ![Faculty Senate Budget Update 4 14](image)

5. **Standing Committees Action Items**

   **Governance & Bylaws Committee**

   Chair Tracy Herrmann introduced a motion on bylaw revisions for discussion. Chair Harknett clarified that the vote on by-law revisions will take place at the All University Faculty (AUF) meeting in May. Tracy Herman was recognized by the Senate for her excellent work on the proposed revisions to the by-laws.

   **Nominations Committee**

   Chair Dennis O’Neill provided an update on nominations. Chair Harknett opened the floor to additions to the slate of nominations, and clarified the procedure. After the slate is closed, twenty-five signatures are required to place a name on the ballot. This would ideally occur prior to the AUF. The Senate voted unanimously in favor of closing the slate of nominations. Chair Harknett stressed that colleges/units need to have their elections for Senate representatives done by May.

6. **Chair Action Item**

   Chair Harknett discussed the scheduling of future Senate meetings with a branch campus focus.
7. **Report of the President of the AAUP**
   John McNay provided an update on issues of continued concern. He stated that there is still concern, despite assurances today by President Williams, regarding the IUC and charter universities. Two versions of the petition in opposition to SB5 have been submitted. There will be specific training for the petitions on all three campuses.

8. **Provost Input Session**
   Provost Ono invited Senators to participate in a discussion surrounding the question as to how the Provost could help to eliminate barriers to the inter-disciplinary process. Several ideas were generated, including a “teaching commons” concept with both a virtual and physical plan, a room at TUC for informal faculty gathering, cataloging and highlighting successful inter-disciplinary accomplishments for greater awareness and recognition, a faculty retreat, identifying best practices for great inter-disciplinary relationships, a template and information session for inter-disciplinary relationships, parking reciprocity to help with the physical barriers, the size of the FDC collaborative grant (it was also noted that COM faculty are not eligible for FDC funding), lessening the barrier of class scheduling, and lessening the constraint of PBB across college inter-disciplinary teaching.

9. **Announcements**
   Chair Harknett encouraged everyone to attend the upcoming “Life of the Mind” sessions.

10. **Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn: The motion to adjourn the April meeting of the Faculty Senate carried.

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