Senate Meeting
April 18, 2012
Minutes

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the March 8 senate meeting were approved.

2. **Report of the Chair, Richard Harknett**
   There was no further discussion of Chair Harknett’s report, which was submitted earlier.

3. **Report of the President of the University of Cincinnati, Gregory Williams**
   President Williams announced the recipient of the Goldwater scholarship, Brad Theilman. The President underscored the increased need for more high level scholarship awards for UC students. The President recognized Marla Hall for her work in getting more awards and more recognition for students. President Williams highlighted the great basketball season. The President spoke of his recent trip to Washington DC and his interactions with political representatives in order to showcase the research and accomplishments at UC. President Williams attended the annual education summit of all public and private colleges in Ohio convened by Sherrod Brown. The President stated that it is clear that we are not getting new funding from the state, and that consequently we need to work on innovation and commercializing research. At the state level, President Williams is the Chair of the Ohio Board of Regents Government Subcommittee, a group that is looking at commercialization of research and entrepreneurship. Locally, the President is a member of the Cincinnati Business Committee (CBC) Venture Capital Committee. There is a commitment by the CBC to build a venture capital fund. The UCRI (UC Research Institute) will be moving the relationship with GE further than the current student co-op experience. This relationship will mean $40-50M. UCForward, which is a part of the AMP, is looking at ways to move entrepreneurship forward. President Williams then welcomed questions from the Senate. Chair Harknett asked if the UCRI could be expanded beyond GE. President Williams responded that GE is the start and that UCRI would allow UC to develop relationships with other businesses.

4. **Secretary of the Faculty Senate**
   Chair Harknett announced that Arlene Johnson would be taking minutes for Wanda McCarthy.

5. **Resolution of the FSAAC on Taskforce on Academic Integrity Report**
   Adrienne Lane reviewed the findings of the report and brought forward the resolution to support the report. There was discussion. The resolution was unanimously approved.

6. **Resolution of the FSAAC on Textbook Affordability Communication**
   Adrienne Lane provided an overview of how UC is doing in terms of compliance with federal requirements. The Academic Affairs Committee thought that this would be good timing for a reaffirmation of the resolution passed January 2010. There was discussion regarding expectations for faculty. It was clarified that faculty need to provide the Registrar information so that students are aware of the prices of textbooks. There was discussion of how to capture information relative to systems in place for online course materials. The resolution was unanimously approved.

7. **Resolution of Common Intellectual Experience**
Adrienne Lane brought forward a resolution that moves Welcome Week to more of an academic focus with opportunity to enhance retention for first year students. Chair Harknett added that this was an attempt to draw the faculty more front-and-center in terms of welcoming new students. There was discussion of this opportunity for faculty to be involved with a view to the significant demands on faculty time at the start of the academic year. The resolution passed with one “no” vote and one abstention.

8. Resolution on Transition
Tracy Herrmann brought forward a resolution on the transition timing for the Chair of the Faculty Senate. The resolution changes the start date of the term to July 1, 2012 for the incoming Faculty Senate Chair, Richard Miller. It was thought that this transition would be beneficial in light of semester conversion. There was a clarification that this would be a one-time only transition change. The resolution was unanimously approved.

9. Review of By-Law Revisions
Tracy Herrmann brought forward proposals for by-laws changes from the governance committee. The changes will be voted on at the May 24 AUF meeting. The changes were highlighted. There will be some changes made to the language of the bylaws so that they are in agreement with Robert’s Rules. Specifically, language regarding ballot votes will be revised. There are also changes being proposed in regard to Senate Chair appointment of faculty to positions in standing committees. These changes would allow the Senate Chair in consultation with the Faculty Senate Cabinet to appoint faculty to vacancies that arise outside of the normal electoral cycle. The rationale for these changes is to provide for a standard electoral cycle where we only vote for positions once a year. This will streamline the process. There was discussion regarding the proposed changes in terms of increased numbers of appointments vs. elections for vacancies. Changes are also being made to remove the language in the bylaws regarding paper ballots for elections. Paper ballots are not used now.

10. Report on Salary payment and semesters
John Bryan outlined the issue of how salary payments to faculty with nine-month appointments would be worked out with semester conversion. Semester conversion creates a deferred compensation issue relative to IRS rules. This would affect only those 200 faculty with nine-month appointments paid over twelve months making over $102,000.00. An announcement will go out within the next few weeks. UC HR has a resolution for this issue and will be communicating directly with affected faculty.

11. Report of the President of the AAUP
Greg Loving provided his first report as Chapter President. He indicated that negotiations were still going on regarding the contract re-opener. Sara Kilpatrick will be the speaker at the upcoming AAUP chapter meeting to update the membership on issues such as pension reform, the enterprise university concept, and HB 256 (conceal carry).

12. Report of the Graduate Student Government Association President
Paulette Penzvalto reported on GSA activities. There is work underway on a study of perceptions of campus safety. Sara Hutchings will be the new GSA President.

13. Report of the Student Government Association President
There was no report.
14. **Provost Input Session**

Provost Ono shared information from a recent IUC meeting. Chancellor Petro indicated that he did not think that the Enterprise University concept would go forward. A white paper will be released on the “Year of Retention and Graduation”. The Chancellor wants to focus on ways to improve the relatively low overall graduation rate in the State. One element of this effort will be interim recognition for students for accomplishments during the course of their college experience with the award of certificates to acknowledge the successful completion of first year, second year etc. The Chancellor wants UC to consider granting a two-year General Education Associate degree. Also, a common application for Ohio universities is being considered.

Provost Ono was pleased to make two major announcements of import to faculty. First, the Provost will invest in the research of the faculty by providing a match for every dollar of bridge funding made by the Deans. The first Dean to agree to do this is the Dean of Medicine. College of Medicine faculty will apply competitively for funds. Second, Provost Ono announced the creation of the Provost’s Committee on Teaching Excellence. The committee will find ways to incentivize enhance measure and celebrate teaching excellence across the university. The group will look at RPT guidelines. The charge of the group is to make specific recommendations to the Provost.

Recommendations will be presented at the AUF. This is a standing committee that will advise the Provost over the long haul. Howard Jackson and Larry Johnson are the committee Co-chairs. Members of the committee are: James Borerio, Theresa Berry, Dr. Ghia, Gail Fairhurst, Richard Harknett, Holly Johnson, Brian Kinkle, Chuck Matthews, Bruce McClung, Susan Sipple, Robert Probst, Verna Williams, Pam Baker and Lee Mortimer. The committee has already started to work.

15. **New Business**

Chair Harknett indicated that the slate of candidates will be sent out by May 1. Dennis O’Neill provided an update on the status of nominations. Chair Harknett called for nominations from the floor. There were none.

Chair Harknett reminded everyone that the May Senate meeting will take place at UC Clermont in Snider 142. A tour will be available. President Williams will be attending the meeting. More details will be sent in advance of the meeting.

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

Respectfully submitted by: Wanda C. McCarthy, Ph.D., Secretary of the Faculty Senate with a special thank you to Arlene Johnson.