Minutes of the Faculty Senate-Joint Governance Meeting
February 13th 2014
TUC 400 ABC

Point of clarification: although the meeting was slated to open at 3 pm, there was some miscommunication; GSGA arrived at 3, faculty at 3.30 and the UGSGA did not attend the meeting.

Call to order
Adrianne Lane presiding; meeting called to order at 3.30 pm.

Approval of minutes.

FS: January 16th meeting of the Faculty Senate Committee.
An amendment was announced; the name of a proposer/seconder was misspelled, and will be corrected in the posted minutes. Posted minutes can be found online at http://www.uc.edu/facultysenate.html#Schedule
Approval moved: J. Tilman (DAAP); seconded A. Peplow (UCBA).
None opposed.

GSGA: February 5th meeting of the GSGA assembly
Presented by Ayça Mazman (AM) (President, GSGA). Approved as posted, no objections.

SGA: Nothing to report

Faculty senate reports

Chair report
Below is a synopsis as written by AL.
Welcome to the Annual Joint Governance Meeting. This is an opportunity for a common dialogue on issues important to the University Students and Faculty. Thank you for attending today’s meeting. I am excited that we are in Week 6 of the Spring Semester. The focus of the Faculty Senate over the past couple of months has been multi-faceted. Key issues include e-learning, research compliance, academic calendar, faculty satisfaction, faculty awards, inclusiveness initiatives, and academic budget priorities. Remember that our March meeting will be at the Clermont Campus. Other important dates include the President’s State of the University Address on April 10 followed by the All University Faculty Meeting. The University Faculty Awards Celebration will be on April 17. The chairs report of previous meetings are posted online at http://www.uc.edu/facultysenate/chair.html

Standing committee reports
In the interest of brevity, attendees were directed to the standing committee website to find these reports as they are posted.
http://www.uc.edu/facultysenate/standing_committees.html

AAUP: Greg Loving, President.
There have been intensive talks of late and will be on the coming weekend, but since the talks are now in mediation, there is little information that can be disclosed.
Q: is there anything we faculty can do to help the process along?
GL: Come to the Board of Trustees meetings (Tuesday morning, meet at AAUP office to march to BoT meeting in Dabney Hall at 8am). Discussions are different when faculty attend. 
UC cannot compete with salaries as UC salaries are far below comparable institutions (even below NKU). The amount paid in upper administration bonuses would allow a 2% raise across the board for all faculty.

Q: We faculty would really like to do something to prevent strike action.
GL: Faculty does not want to strike; it is detrimental to the students. We will do everything to avoid it, unless the protracted discussions result in negative impact to the students.

Q: We really need a way to calculate how much we will be paying compared to what we are paying currently (for healthcare costs).
GL: An email is set to go out tomorrow with just such a calculation tool.

SGA Reports: Nothing to report
GSGA Reports: Ayca Mazman (AM) (president)
AM presented a slideshow, which is available from AM, or from GJPG (Faculty Senate Secretary) at request.
AM highlighted that any information regarding the GSGA can be found online at http://www.uc.edu/gsga/ including contact information, office hours, officers, events and priority discussion points.
Deadline for nominating GS for the GS excellence award is approaching (February 16th).
GSGA is also looking for nominations for the Board of Trustees representation. AM already attends these meetings. Interested parties should be a graduate student in good standing at UC and be an Ohio resident. Please submit resume, 1 page statement of intent, proof of academic standing and grade release by February 28th.
The GSGA executive board meets March 2nd. If you want to be considered for nomination for election to President, VP, Treasurer or campus ambassador, please submit resume and letter of intent.
We have held some well-attended events. Upcoming events include monthly happy hours, 2/21 Alumni Association 12 Strangers, 2/22 HSGA Mecklenburg Gardens and many others. See our website for details (above).
Graduate students have expressed a need for professional development offerings, such as literature review, social media and effective writing seminars.

Report of the President Santa Ono (SO).
President Ono asked if there was anything in particular the attendees wished to discuss with him. AL requested that there be a discussion of the departure of Whit Babcock and rapid replacement with a new AD. Dr. Ono responded that he would be happy to talk about anything that he was at liberty to discuss, and proceeded to talk about public safety.
The following oration was largely identical to the presentation given the month before by the President to Faculty Senate, and reported in the minutes of the January 16th FS meeting. All of the information given and more, plus resources and links, is also available online at http://besafe.uc.edu/ the President then opened the floor to questions.

Q (from a GS): Are there plans to add cameras in on-campus locations in order to catch thieves?
SO: There are lots of plans on the table, and we welcome your suggestions. You can submit ideas on the besafe website (see above). We are adding more features and security to the Blue Phone phone apps.

Q (from a GS): Are there specific efforts to target DAAP? It has a really bad reputation on and off campus.

SO: Please share these kinds of data and suggestions so we can act on them.

Q (from a GS): There is obviously targeting of freshmen. How is UC working to address this? Mandatory public safety training?

SO: UCPD and the CPD are working together on this, but there could be more specific effort.

Q (from a GS): This can also be applied to International or new-to-campus students.

SO: Your president (AM) is very good at representing you and making sure we are aware of this group. We know that it is important to communicate with students in their own language or cultural sensibilities. This also helps to allow students to feel safer and considered.

Q (from a GS): Many GS work late as a matter of course. We would like to see the parking garages charging low/no fee later in the day to allow safer GS parking.

Q (from a GS): Can you please explain the weather related closure policies? Would be great if UC could clear the sidewalks around campus.

SO: Different schools do it differently, although there are laws by which be have to abide.

Q: what are the specific criteria that trigger a closure? Seemed unnecessary some days recently.

Q (from a GS): What about graduate housing? this too is a safety question.

SO: This is clearly an issue. We are working with Uptown Properties as part of the 3rd Century plan. $12M has been used to recruit new graduate students, but it could be used to pay GS well so they can afford to live in safer housing.

AL: Many thanks President Ono. May we please rearrange the agenda to allow this meeting to finish on time? Can we move discussion of the calendar to the next FS meeting?

JT: We must have something in place by the next calendar committee meeting in March.

**Safety Update: Dr. Robin Engel.**

The content of Dr. Engel’s presentations was largely covered by Dr. Ono’s oration (see above) and can be found as part of Institute of Crime Science

http://www.uc.edu/ics/projects/violencereduction.html

The slide presentation is available from Dr. Engel upon request.
Q. It seems that more crimes are happening early in the morning of late?
RE: Robberies have shifted, burglaries occur during the day when the students are out at class.

Q. On or off campus?
RE: these are off-campus statistics.

Q. But these only include those crimes that were reported....
RE: Yes, only crimes that occurred and were reported. Not arrests or convictions.

Q: How much of the reported downturn is due to the infusion of money from UC?
RE: it is an expensive endeavor, but it does work. One problem is that the extra CPD patrols are voluntary (paid, but not mandatory), so there was little extra coverage on Thanksgiving and Christmas because of lack of volunteer officers.

Q: If you are identifying particular hotspot addresses, are you working with local landlords? They will not like it if their properties are highlighted.
RE: We are highlighting streets, not specific addresses.

Q: So this will allow landlords in areas identified as “safe” to drive up rent costs and drive out GS to cheaper, less safe neighborhoods.
RE: This is going to be a gradual change, which will raise the safety of the entire area over time.

Q. I noticed that car theft was up and theft from a car was down. Doesn’t this mean that thieves are just stealing the entire car.....?
RE: this is a years-long trend and city-wide. There has been a recent uptick because of the cold weather. People leave their keys in the car as it warms up in the morning.

Q. Are there plans for sting operations and undercover police patrols?
RE: The increased CPD and overtime patrols are expensive and effective only in the short term.

Q. Is there coordination with local businesses?
RE: The ICS performs the crime analyses for the Uptown Consortium, so yes.

Q. What is the impact of the blue lights? Will they be placed off-campus?
RE: They work really well on campus, but off campus equipment gets stolen/ misused/vandalized (based on other locations analysis).
**Open dialogue with Provost Davenport (BD).**

*Q. Can you talk about make-up days for weather closures? GS and UG pay for a specific number of contact days.*

BD: There are no snow days built in to the semesters, but we have not yet fallen below the required number of teaching days. Only approximately 65% of faculty use blackboard, which facilitates communication. It should be much higher than this.

*Q. But blackboard is execrable....*  

BD: There must be a way for professors to effectively communicate with their students so that rescheduling can be achieved. Use weekends, evenings, have the class meet anyway. We cannot mandate that students attend extra make up sessions, but they are responsible for making sure they meet their academic goals. Student safety and financial committees make the decision about campus closure.

*Q: Reading days?*  

BD: I just heard about these! There are plans in progress to schedule fall reading days.

JT: And this is on the March agenda of the Calendar Committee.

*Q. Graduate students have professed an interest in having opportunities to meet with the provost and members of the Board of Trustees.*

BD: There are only 2 GS on the Student advisory board. BD is invited to speak at 4-5 student events already so you can interact with me at SGA and GSGA events. You can also get on my schedule directly.

*Q. What is the progress in finding a new dean for A & S. Kristi Nelson is doing a great job.*

BD: It has been taking a very long time and I don’t quite understand why. However, there are no plans to stall, so we are working on it.

*Q. Once a dean is hired, with KN come back as vice provost, and will Rich Miller come back to Faculty Senate?*  

BD: Not clear at this point.

AL and AM: Thanks everyone for coming and participating. Motion to close the meeting. *Seconded by everyone. Meeting adjourned.*