

Senate Meeting
January 12, 2012
Minutes

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the December senate meeting were approved.
2. **Report of the Chair, Richard Harnett**

Vice Chair Daniel Langmeyer presided over the meeting in Chair Harknett's absence. There was no discussion of the Chair's report.

The Chair's report can be read in its entirety on the Faculty Senate Web Site.
http://www.uc.edu/content/dam/uc/facultysenate/senate/docs/facultysenate/chairreports/chairreportsharknett/Chair_Report_January_11_2012.pdf
3. **Report of the President of the University of Cincinnati, Gregory Williams**

President Williams was travelling so there was no report.
4. **Resolution on Sandra Heimann**

Activity was suspended to hear the resolution honoring Sandra Heimann, Chair of the Board of Trustees on her retirement. The resolution to commend and recognize Sandra W. Heimann for her service to the University of Cincinnati was passed unanimously. She will be given a reception and a token of our appreciation for her service to the University.
5. **Discussion of Harassment Module:** The University is requiring every employee to pass an exam about harassment and discrimination. The module is developed specifically for the University community. There are separate modules for staff and faculty. The module provides specific examples of behaviors that constitute sexual harassment. Faculty Senators are encouraged to finish the module in order to provide a leadership model for other faculty. The exam must be passed with a score of 80% or better. This is informational for faculty and relates to risk management for the University.
6. **Report of the Student Government Association**

Al Hagerly, Undergraduate Student Body President, reported on Dr. Charles Ginn's committee in the Psychology Department that has been working on lower cost text book alternatives for undergraduates in the Introduction to Psychology courses. Based on the committee's recommendation the Psychology Department is going to be using a book from Flat World Knowledge that will be free online to students. Vice Chair, Daniel Langmeyer explained that the book is free online and for \$20.00 students can have access to online study guides, videos etc. If students want a hard copy of the text, they can get one shipped to them for \$15.00. Thus, the entire cost to students would be at most \$35.00. The committee is currently surveying psychology undergraduate students to get their input on this type of textbook. It was suggested that other departments should consider using these types of lower cost alternatives in other undergraduate courses. Al also indicated that nominations are now open for the Presidential Medal of Leadership Excellence.
7. **Report of the Graduate Student Government Association President**

There was no report. Vice Chair Daniel Langmeyer made the report for the GSA President. There was a housing meeting with the Provost and administration set for January. A solution for the

graduate and family housing issue is on the horizon. There has been an ongoing dialogue with the administration about dependent coverage issues and the graduate student GS/GA Transportation and Safety Survey was completed. GSA has been working with Campus Safety and BTS to interpret the data and implement new modes of transportation for graduate students in the early hours of the morning. Vice Chair Langmeyer commended the student body for bringing up the safety issue.

8. Report of the President of the AAUP , John McNay

John McNay discussed the Faculty Development Review Committee. The committee's charge is to look at the entire faculty development plan. The committee is made up of three administrators and three faculty and three AAUP representatives. He asked the senate for nominations to fill out that side of the committee. Senators could nominate colleagues or they could self-nominate.

9. Report of Budgets and Priority Committee, Daniel Langmeyer

Vice Chair, Langmeyer gave the senate a report from the Budget and Priorities Committee. Yesterday the FCC got the revised new budget. Initially a 10% threshold (cut) was suggested. Since that time the Deans got together with Provost Ono and President Williams, and they decided that it might be too much of a cut. The revised budget has reduced the cut to 7%. One of the things that has happened to make this possible is that less money is being put into reserves. In addition, there have been savings to the University in other areas. Some of the savings did go to reducing the cut for academics. However, the other part of the savings in the general fund went to eliminate the deficit in the athletic department.

10. Provost Input Session, Provost Santa Ono

The Provost began by offering to discuss the budget. Last year there was a cut in state support for academic instruction. When the University gets fewer funds from the state, then this translates into fewer funds for academics. As Chief Academic Officer, the Provost's role is to advocate for the faculty in the colleges in the University. At present the budgeting process is not over. This is just a snap shot of where we are in the process. We are not expecting a cut in state support in general funds this year. The Provost advocated for academics to get a five percent cut in funds as opposed to the 10% cut in funds proposed by Central Administration/Finance Administration. Once the Provost made his recommendation, the administration responded with the 7% cut. The Provost reiterated that no final decision has been made as of now. Right now they are modeling what it would take to get all of the units to deal with that kind of a cut. Many things are still up in the air. The Provost discussed the multifactorial process he goes thorough in making decisions regarding resource allocation. He indicated that he is transparent in his process and would be willing to walk anyone who is interested through it. When asked, he indicated that the closing of departments or colleges could possibly be on the table.

Vice Chair, Daniel Langmeyer asked the Provost about the International Focus for UC. Senator, Brett Hartnett, Indicated that he had done some research on international education prior to the meeting. He asked the Provost if he was familiar with the Centers for Studies of Higher Education at the University of California at Berkeley. The center at Berkeley is interested in higher education as an export. Their data indicate that there is a great deal of demand for distance learning internationally. Ohio is number 9 in the top ten of states offering distance learning educational exports. He wanted to bring this to the Provost's attention and offered the most current report to the Provost. The Provost indicated he would be interested in reading the report.

The Provost readdressed the issue of the possibility of closing colleges and departments, by saying that he did not want to scare people by saying that it was a possibility. He said that he wanted to temper that statement by saying that he is at this moment not considering closing any colleges. At present he is engaged in a comprehensive review of doctoral programs. He indicated that this review process has been transparent. The data from these reviews are being analyzed now and soon a recommendation will be made to him about funding for the individual doctoral programs as well as recommendations about whether to close. He went onto say that he is not thinking about closing any colleges at this moment.

The Provost was asked about the search for a new Vice Provost for International Studies, and the future of a global education emphasis at the University of Cincinnati. The Provost pointed out the global emphasis in UC 2019 indicating that the President had allocated a million dollars in funds to provide new study abroad opportunities to our students and to recruit international students to the university. The Academic Master Plan gave a clear message that providing an international context to our education and our research activity is something UC views as desirable. These are two reasons why the search for the Vice Provost for International Studies has been reinitiated. The search is moving along and is a priority.

11. Announcements

There were no announcements.

12. Adjournment. Motion to adjourn: The motion to adjourn the January meeting of the Faculty Senate carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Wanda C. McCarthy, Ph.D., Secretary of the Faculty Senate