

**Report of the Faculty Senate Chair  
November 9, 2017**

Good afternoon Senators, Student Government, and Guests,

I would like to thank all who attended the All-University Faculty Meeting on October 24. The topic was the University's response to the controversial request of Richard Spencer to speak on the UC campus. President Pinto, General Counsel Lori Ross, and Vice President for Equity and Inclusion Bleuzette Marshall provided information and answered numerous questions. Interim Provost Kristi Nelson and Vice President for Research Patrick Limbach also provided reports.

Mr. Spencer has not signed a contract with the University; therefore, there is no date or location to report. Nevertheless, the University takes very seriously this challenge to our core values of inclusion and support freedom of speech. Plans are under way to develop a robust response that unites the university on our values of unity and diversity. Ideas being developed by the Office of Equity and Inclusion include:

- Educational – *articles/book, conference, panel discussion, seminar, trivia game*
- Visual and Performing Arts – *concert, dance, exhibit, film screening, spoken word*
- Community – *buttons, t-shirts, signage, fundraiser, service project*
- Cultural Celebration – *awards ceremony, festival, fashion/cultural attire, food*
- Social Media – *Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat*
- Advertising – *television, digital/online, radio, print*

A website to answer questions and keep the university community up to date on the situation has been established: <http://www.uc.edu/freespeech.html>.

Three finalists in the Provost Search have now visited UC: Dr. Chadin Djalali, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Iowa; Dr. Keith Moo-Young, Chancellor, Washington State University Tri-Cities; and Dr. Eric Eisenberg, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, University of South Florida. Sessions for faculty and students were held on all four campuses. The final candidate, Dr. William Latimer, Dean of the School of Health Sciences, Human Services, and Nursing, Lehman College, will be on campus Monday and Tuesday, November 20 and 21. Please watch for the schedule of faculty and student forums.

The Life of the Mind Lecture series, which is jointly organized by Faculty Senate and the UC Libraries, and sponsored by the Office of the Provost, returns next Tuesday, November 14, 3:00 – 5:00, Annie Laws (407 Teachers/Dyer), with a lecture by Dr. Jeffrey Blevins, Chair of Journalism, A&S. His presentation is titled: Manufacturing Truth: The Political Economy of Fake News, Bots, and Double-Speak.” A panel of faculty from diverse disciplines will provide comments. Please post the flyer in your colleges and around campus.

A celebration and recognition for newly tenured or promoted faculty was held on October 23. I was pleased to be able to offer congratulations on behalf of the university faculty. Attaining promotion and tenure at a Research 1 university such as UC is a tremendous achievement.

I am pleased to share information about four faculty members from UC who have recently received recognition:

- Dr. Jason Heikenfeld, Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Technology, and now Assistant Vice President for Technology, received the Ohio Faculty Council Technology Commercialization Award for recognized for his technology for non-invasive sensing of analytes (sweat biosensing technology).
- Dr. Tina Stanton, who is the Associate Director for Early Childhood Education, has been involved in the design, planning and creation of an inclusive playground at West Fork Park in Greene Township. It is a playground for children of all abilities, ages 6 months to 12 years, and includes a sensory maze, a zipline (first of its kind in North America), a mega-slide structure, a Dr. Seuss-like house for infants, and tunnels.
- Faculty Senator Dr. James Canfield, Assistant Professor of Social Work, was cited by WCPO (Channel 9) as a rising star for his work on childhood poverty in Cincinnati. He has created a clearinghouse of local data on homelessness and poverty that is being used to inform and boost programs run by nonprofit agencies focused on homelessness and poverty.
- Cynthia Ris, Professor of English and Comparative Literature and Chair-Elect of Faculty Senate, was interviewed by the Chronicle of Higher Education for the Task Force Report for Online Learning, which she chaired for UC Faculty Senate. George Washington University cited the report and Senate resolution in their own report as evidence of university efforts to encourage improvement in online education.

If you know of any special faculty accomplishments, please send them my way. I would like to share them throughout the year with Faculty Senate.

Finally, we are accepting nominations for the Faculty Senate University Service Award. Two awards are given each year for exemplary service to the University of Cincinnati. Faculty members eligible for the award are full-time faculty who have exhibited sustained, significant, and impactful University service activity over several years, and who have provided significant leadership within the University. Nominations should be sent to Dr. Carol Wheeler-Strother and must be received by 5:00pm, December 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Moomaw, EdD  
Chair, University Faculty