

May 14, 2015 Faculty Chair Report

- Congratulations to all faculty—UC conferred nearly 6400 degrees this spring!!
 - For continuing Faculty Senators, please mark your calendars for the Faculty Senate Boot Camp and first Faculty Senate meeting to be held on Thursday, August 20, 2015 as well as the second September meeting on September 10, 2015. Details are available at www.uc.edu/facultysenate.
 - The part-time Faculty Senators, Eva Krieg, Dana Griffith and I met with Matt Serra to availability of faculty development for part time faculty, potential for full time positions, and the itinerate nature.
 - Searches are underway for Senior Vice President and Provost for Academic Affairs, Associate Director for CET&L, and Vice President for Research.
 - All positions were not filled in the Faculty Senate committee elections for the new positions within the IT Governance structure. The Cabinet decided to begin with one faculty representative for each committee this year and to then add a second faculty representative next year to transition in these new positions.
 - Coming soon...The call for the fall Life of Mind Lecturer – Please consider nominees to be honored. The focus of this series is intellectual conversation amongst faculty.
 - Election results—Please join me in congratulating Sally Moomaw, Chair Elect (she will serve one year as Chair Elect during the second year of my term as Chair, she will then serve two years as Faculty Chair), Dan Carl, Secretary, Rebecca Leugers, Board of Trustees Representative, and At Large Senators Marla Hall, Arlene Johnson, Ana Vamadeva, and Victoria Wangia-Anderson. Seats are available on the University Library Committee. Please contact me if you know of a faculty member who is interested in serving.
 - The revisions to the Faculty By-Laws were approved by faculty at the spring All University Faculty meeting. These will be sent to legal counsel and the Provost for review and then forwarded to the Board of Trustees for consideration, hopefully at their June meeting.
 - The Ohio Faculty Council met with Stephanie Davidson, Vice Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents. The state budget is in a state of flux. Questions were asked about competency based education and potentially bringing Western Governor’s University to fill a need in Ohio. The Vice Chancellor expressed that Western Governor’s would serve a new group of students—a new adult market—not presently served by the state institutions of higher education. Faculty debated this and expressed extreme concern. The Ohio budget is presently under consideration by the state senate and is currently being presented with a 0% increase in SSI and a 0% increase in tuition. A new program review process is available on the OBR website at https://www.ohiohighered.org/content/directive_2015_016.
 - A committee was called by President Ono to consider weather related policies and protocols. I have served as the faculty representative and Ryan Hays is the Chair. A draft set of recommendations has been shared with the Faculty Senate Cabinet and will come to the full senate in early fall semester for consideration. Some features include setting county and national weather service levels for snow emergency and wind chill as benchmarks for the appropriateness of closure. Guidelines for academic activities during emergency closure and definitions for essential personnel are also being considered as drafted by Rich Miller.
 - Thank you to everyone for their service this year. Our work is integral to making the voice of faculty heard and for providing a venue for shared governance.
- Respectfully Submitted, Tracy Herrmann