Senate Meeting
February 10, 2011
Minutes

Vice-Chair John Cuppoletti presided over the meeting in Chair Harknett's absence.

1. **Approval of the Minutes.** The minutes of the January 13 senate meeting were approved.
2. **Report of the Chair, Richard Harknett**
   Vice-Chair Cuppoletti opened discussion of Chair Harknett's report, which was submitted earlier. There was no further discussion.
3. **Report of the President of the University of Cincinnati, Gregory Williams**
   President Williams commented on a recent session on Egypt, Tunisia, and the Middle East with excellent presentations from a number of UC faculty members. The President shared that UC has recruited 45 national merit finalists. This places UC fifty-fifth in the country and in the top twenty of public universities in the nation. President Williams stated that the campaign continues to move forward, and stands to date at $739M. The President provided an update on the partnership with the EPA to develop a regional Water Technology Innovation Center. The President shared that Governor Kasich had great things to say about UC at a February 1 meeting of business leaders in Cincinnati. The Governor challenged UC to do more to turn research into commercial ventures. President Williams pointed out to the Governor that UC has done a great deal in this area, and has twelve master agreements with private companies at present.
4. **Discussion of Distributed Reports of Standing Committees**
   There was no further discussion of the submitted reports. Ana Vamadeva, Chair, Human Relations Committee provided a reminder that the deadline for submissions for the Faculty Service Award is February 11. Tracy Hermann, Chair, Governance Committee, provided a reminder for submissions for by-laws revisions for semester conversion.
5. **Discussion of Distributed Reports from All-University Committees**
   There was no further discussion of the submitted reports.
6. **Report of the President of the AAUP**
   John McNay reported on the work being undertaken to resist SB5, and provided an update on the rallies in Columbus on February 9.
7. **Report of the Graduate Student Government Association President**
   There were no additions to the submitted report.
8. **Report of the Student Government Association President**
   There were no additions to the submitted report.
9. **New Business**
   Vice-Chair Cuppoletti indicated that Chair Harknett wished to appoint Dennis O'Neill, as Senate Chair, to nominate the Nominations Committee. The motion to approve the appointment was unanimously approved. All first year Senators were appointed to the Nominating Committee, and Vice-Chair Cuppoletti called for four Senators from the first year group to work with the Chair as a Nominations Coordinating Committee. Vice-Chair Cuppoletti put forth a motion to appoint Nnamdi

Elleh, Brett Harnett, Lawrence Bennett, and Jim Everly to the Nominations Coordinating Committee. The motion was unanimously approved.

Report of the Budget and Priorities Committee and Budget Discussion
Dan Langmeyer, Chair, Budget and Priorities Committee, presided over this discussion. University Administration is taking input from faculty into the FY12 budget process. To facilitate this input, all senators were asked for input on budget reductions and revenue targets in colleges and/or departments. There was discussion. Senators were asked to submit information in the meeting, or to hand in already prepared information as feedback. There will be a more complete report from the Budget and Priorities Committee at the next Senate meeting.

10. **Provost Input Session**

Provost Ono began by thanking the Senate for the opportunity to participate in regular exchanges at Senate meetings. An update was provided on the UC2019 process, including the Academic Master Plan (AMP). The four groups, representing faculty, administrators, staff, and students, working on documentation for the AMP have met. In the next two to three weeks, the Provost hopes to release the collective vision of the four groups to the university community. The Provost is looking forward to the reactions to this collective vision. There will be a Coordinating Committee comprised of the Chairs of all four groups, the President, and the President's Executive Committee to determine the next steps in the process. Two volumes of documentation will be released in the next three weeks. The first volume will capture the vision of the community against the nine operational principles identified in UC2019. The second volume will contain the university's plan on how to move to the President's goals in UC2019. The goal will be to prioritize and create a feasible, strategic way to move forward the goals.

Provost Ono spoke about the academic budget of the university, reviewing state budget cut scenarios. The academic units were asked to prepare 20% budget cut scenarios. Approximately 69% of the university budget rests with the Office of the Provost. The academic budget verges on $1B. State support for instruction is $190M. If 20% is cut, this amounts to $38M lost. The university does not yet have a final budget. The university will know more about the budget by mid-March. In many colleges, cuts will be absorbed with growth and distance learning. The Office of the Provost will not be immune from budget cuts. The university is doing its best to articulate the importance of higher education to the Governor and at the state level.

Provost Ono is looking at the current Performance Based Budgeting (PBB) model. Consultants were invited to meet with the PBB Development Team. The consultants have produced a report indicating what might be done to tweak the current model, and suggested ways in which to evolve the budgeting process. While the current PBB model focused on the general/state funds budget, the consultants and the President have looked at all revenue strands- a whole funds budgeting model.

The Provost outlined efforts to look at university operations. The university has to be prepared to find revenue elsewhere with decreasing state funds. There is a task force looking at the UC

Foundation in order to do everything possible to increase philanthropic giving, since this is a critical way to deal with a difficult state funding situation.

Provost Ono provided an update on the searches underway for the three open Dean positions.

Questions for the Provost were as follows:
Has there been any discussion of graduated tuition costs? Provost Ono indicated that there had been discussions, and that he would like faculty input on this issue. He also noted that both he and the President feel strongly that students should not bear the burden of cuts.
At what point are we unable to grow our way out of cuts? When does this impact on quality? Provost Ono recognized that there is a price to be paid in terms of faculty and students in terms of this approach. He indicated that there are initiatives for more strategic recruitment, given the expected decrease of the prospective student population in the geographic area within the next several years. The Provost indicated that both he and the President do not want to approach cuts in a non-strategic way. It is important to avoid mediocrity and to look at excellence in terms of the future of the university.

11. **Announcements**
    BJ Zirger announced that the Blue Ribbon Academic Technology Instruction Task Force will be sending out a survey to faculty shortly. All faculty members were encouraged to provide input.
12. **Adjournment.** Motion to adjourn: The motion to adjourn the February meeting of the Faculty Senate carried.

Respectfully submitted by: Arlene Johnson, Secretary of the Faculty Senate