

Minutes
The Faculty Assembly
The Catholic University of America

September 25, 2018

The meeting began at 9:07 a.m. with Dr. Linda Plitt Donaldson presiding.

The 23 people present introduced themselves by their School affiliation. Faculty from the Schools of Arts & Sciences, Engineering, NCSSS, Nursing, Music, Drama & Art, and Theology & Religious Studies were present.

The agenda for the September 25 meeting was approved unanimously. The minutes for the September 5 meeting were approved unanimously.

There was a motion to suspend the rule requiring 30 people for a quorum. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was a motion to elect Dr. Ann Cederna to the Executive Board of the Faculty Assembly. Dr. Cederna was elected unanimously. The Executive Board is now represented by all schools except for Business, Canon Law, Philosophy, and Nursing.

Dr. Donaldson gave a recap of the meeting between Faculty Assembly Board members and representatives of the Board of Trustees.

- Dr. Venigalla Rao and Dr. Binh Tran briefly described their presentations to the Board.
- The assembled faculty then discussed the various Board members' responses to the FA presentation.

Dr. Donaldson then described the 9/21/18 letter from the Faculty Assembly Executive to the Board of Trustees offering suggestions and action items to improve the relationship and "alignment" between the faculty, the Administration, and the Board of Trustees.

- The faculty discussed the future composition of the Faculty Senate, possible changes to the Faculty Handbook, and a potential University Ombudsman

The faculty then discussed the provost's e-mailed remarks from the Faculty Luncheon of September 18.

- The faculty discussed whether the provost's language protecting tenure was sufficient and what could be done to further strengthen tenure at CUA
- The faculty also discussed the data being used by the provost and the Faculty Assembly to discuss the financial status of the University.
 - Faculty Assembly Board members plan to reach out to the Financial Planning, Institutional Research and Assessment in order to further discuss data and data sources and to plan a meeting, possibly for January 2019

The faculty then discussed the Provost's review of Deans in Spring semester 2018.

- There were surveys of Dean's performance evaluations in June, but there have been no updates about the aggregated results of these surveys with the faculty.
- The Faculty Assembly Executive Board has drafted a letter to provost raising the issue and requesting results of the survey.

The assembled faculty discussed the recent hiring of Kennedy & Company to evaluate the CUA Libraries.

- Concerns were raised because of previous critiques of the accuracy of K&C's work in assessing Departments during the Academic Renewal process
- Faculty discussed whether the Academic Services committee could become involved in evaluating the library

The assembled faculty discussed the Unit of Standards Committee and how the revised teaching loads are being implemented.

- Concerns were raised about the lack of planning and direction regarding teaching loads.

The Faculty Assembly discussed the dates and times of future meetings.

- Dr. Tran presented two timeslots that work for the largest number of faculty: Wednesdays 12:30-2 and Tuesdays 12:30-2.
- The Faculty Assembly will plan to alternate meetings between the Tuesday/Wednesday slots.
- The next two meetings of the Faculty Assembly will be on Wednesday, October 24 and Tuesday, November 27.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.