

FACULTY ASSEMBLY

October 2, 2018

Dear Provost Abela,

In June, per your request, the faculty completed questionnaires evaluating the performance of the respective deans of Schools. In addition, the faculty provided specific comments. We applaud this as a valuable undertaking aimed at improvement and accountability. You had mentioned that you will discuss the evaluations with the deans “in aggregate.” However, faculty have not heard anything about the survey results or how they were followed up on with the deans and what recommendations, if any, were given to the deans based on the surveys.

As the deans hold critical positions in the university’s academic and administrative structure, it is essential for our continuing progress that this evaluation process inform faculty, who are key stakeholders in the university, about the status of their dean's performance, as well as about what course corrections or adjustments, where necessary, are being pursued.

The surveys are not a complete picture, of course, because many faculty, concerned about their anonymity, don’t participate (a problem that should be addressed in the near future). Nevertheless, we would greatly appreciate it if you would provide to the faculty 1) the results of the quantitative component of the surveys for each dean, and 2) the specific suggestions or directives you gave to the deans based on these surveys. At the Sept. 12 meeting between Executive Committee members of the Faculty Assembly and four Board members, Board Chair Carlini acknowledged that there is a critical need for greater transparency at the University, and this would be an important and productive step in that direction.

Thank you,

Faculty Assembly Executive Committee

Dr. Linda Plitt Donaldson, Faculty Assembly Chair; National Catholic School of Social Service

Dr. Binh Tran, Faculty Assembly Vice-Chair; School of Engineering

Dr. William Barbieri, School of Theology and Religious Studies

Dr. Ann Cederna, School of Architecture and Planning

Dr. Katherine Jansen, School of Arts and Sciences, History

Prof. David Lipton, Columbus School of Law

Dr. Michael Mack, School of Arts & Sciences, English

Dr. Stephen McKenna, Faculty Assembly Executive Committee; Arts & Sciences, Media Studies

Dr. Venigalla Rao, Faculty Assembly Executive Committee; Arts & Sciences, Biology

Dr. Andrew Weaver, Rome School of Music, Drama & Art

Dr. Julia Young, Faculty Assembly Executive Committee; Arts & Sciences, History

cc:

President John Garvey

Dr. Patrick Tuite, Chair, Academic Senate, Rome School of Music, Drama, and Art

Dr. Kurt Martens, Vice Chair, Academic Senate, School of Canon Law