

Minutes
The Faculty Assembly
The Catholic University of America
January 23, 2019

The meeting began at 12:35 a.m. with Dr. Linda Plitt Donaldson presiding.

The 16 people present introduced themselves by their School affiliation. Faculty from the Schools of Arts & Sciences, Engineering, NCSSS, Nursing, Law, and Theology & Religious Studies were present.

The agenda for the January meeting was approved unanimously. The minutes for the November 27 meeting were approved unanimously.

The faculty discussed their concerns about the dismissal of Dr. Stephen McKenna.

- The faculty is very concerned about the way that the statement was made public (something that has not happened within the memory of several longstanding faculty)
- The Statement released by the University is inaccurate and misleading, based on the known facts of the case
- Dr. Donaldson read a statement from Dr. Ernie Zampelli
- The faculty discussed concerns about governance, since the committee considering Dr. McKenna's case did not recommend dismissal
- The faculty discussed a response from the Faculty Assembly to the University regarding Dr. McKenna

The Faculty discussed the progress of the Middle States accreditation process.

- The faculty raised questions about whether faculty concerns will be shared in the Middle States report, and discussed how the report is prepared.
- Middle States accreditation, its status, and the visit process will be discussed at the next meeting

Updates on Endowment, Enrollment, Consortium Solidarity, Libraries

- Dr. Tran shared updates on the status of the endowment. The faculty continue to be concerned about the lack of transparency surrounding endowment updates.
- Dr. Tran shared the latest updates on enrollment, and these numbers are concerning as well, despite the fact that the admissions deadline was extended by one week. There will be more updates available in February.
- Dr. Young updated the faculty on the progress of the Joint Statement of Solidarity with local universities.
- Dr. Barbieri updated the faculty on concerns about how budget cuts have negatively impacted the University Libraries, particularly in regards to staffing and resources. TRS is drafting a statement on the matter, and the Committee on Academic Services may also take up the issue.

The meeting concluded at 2:00 pm. The next meeting will take place on February 19, from 12:30-2pm.