

CUA Faculty Assembly

Minutes of the May 8, 2019 CUA Faculty meeting

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

The 17 people in attendance introduced themselves by their School affiliation. Faculty from the Schools of Arts & Science; Engineering; Music, Drama, and Art; NCSSS; Law; Nursing; and Theology & Religious Studies were present.

The agenda for the May meeting was approved unanimously. The minutes for the April 16 meeting were approved unanimously.

The assembled faculty discussed the announcement of the leadership change in the position of the Provost was recently announced. Provost Abela will now be the new Dean of the School of Business and Dean Dominguez from A&S will assume role of Provost per the communication by President Garvey.

- Discussion arose regarding whether the Provost will continue to be the “senior” vice president amongst the other vice presidents, signifying the academic sector’s importance compare to other business units supporting the university’s mission.
- Some discussion from the faculty regarding desire to see results from the Campus Survey recently conducted (Gallup Poll).
- Some faculty discussed surprise that the process for selection of the new Provost did not include discussions with the campus community or an external search. Faculty discussed the desire for more formal process and involvement of the CUA community in the appointment of a new provost.
- Some discussion ensued regarding whether the Handbook should be revised to reflect this process and whether FA could be helpful in studying best practices as other universities.
- Overall, members in attendance supported the FA send a letter to the new Provost congratulating him on the new position and the Faculty Assembly’s willingness to collaborate and support him.

Update regarding AAUP chapter:

- Drs. Young and Tran are still gathering information on formation and requirements of an AAUP chapter. This topic has been tabled and will be discussed in the September meeting.

The faculty discussed the most recent enrollment updates:

- The latest enrollment as of May 3 was 809 with 40 extensions (until May 8-15).
- Even if the target (835 students) is reached, the increased discount rate approved by BoT will still likely result in reduced revenues at CUA.

The CUA Salary Study is underway.

- Dr. Donaldson, a member of CoFEW, mentioned they have met with Mercer (consultants) for one meeting, but there has been very little interaction since. CoFEW

will share the FA salary data with the Compensation Study Committee and Mercer as well as sharing the list of CUA selected peer group obtained from Institutional Research.

- Faculty expressed some concern regarding gender differences in compensation and suggested this issue should also be studied.

Faculty discussed the communication from the president regarding bonuses for faculty and staff.

- While faculty are appreciative of the bonus, it was noted that bonuses are one-time offerings and do not roll from year-to-year.

Discussion moved towards presence of the CUA Tower at FA meetings.

- Several members suggested their concern regarding being identified and quoted in the CUA Tower and that it inhibits open discussion.
- Several suggested that the FA Executive Board should meet regularly with the Tower. Suggestion was made to have an FA press secretary who can liase with the media.

There was some discussion regarding FA meeting frequency for AY19-20 ensued.

- The FA will consider moving to a bi-monthly schedule.

New Business:

- A faculty member raised a concern regarding General Education Curriculum Committee's process for approving courses for the general education curriculum.
- Some departments are concerned that course proposals are not being approved fast enough and in time for course selections. In some cases, students register for courses and may not be aware whether courses count to satisfy GECC requirements since many courses are not yet approved (backlogged).
- More details on this approval process is requested.
- FA will reach out to Dean Mayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.