

## Minutes from the October 27, 2019

### Executive Board:

**Dr. Binh Tran**, Chair  
*School of Engineering*

**Dr. Robin Young**, Vice-Chair  
*School of Theology and  
Religious Studies*

**Dr. Sharyn Battersby**  
*Rome School of Music,  
Drama & Art*

**Dr. William Barbieri**  
*School of Theology and  
Religious Studies*

**Dr. Ann Cederna**  
*School of Architecture and  
Planning*

**David Lipton**, Esquire  
*Columbus School of Law*

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

**Dr. Venigalla Rao**  
*Arts & Sciences, Biology*

**Dr. Alex Russo**  
*Arts & Sciences, Media  
Studies*

**Dr. Janet Selway**  
*School of Nursing*

**Dr. Vijay Sookdeo**  
*School of Arts and Sciences,  
Mathematics*

**Dr. Julia Young**  
*School of Arts & Sciences,  
History*

The meeting was convened by 2 p.m., Room 110, Pangborn Hall

Minutes of the September meeting were approved

**FA Executive Board:** It was noted that Dr. Selway from the School of Nursing has agreed to join the FA Executive Board. The FA Executive Board is still seeking participation from remaining schools not currently represented.

**Teaching Loads:** There was a report on the meeting of the university-wide Unit Standards Committee (USC) on 10/25. USC arranged for Dr. Kerry Ann O'Meara of the University of Maryland, a specialist in workload distribution, to lead a portion of the discussion. The general view of the two FA members present at the meeting was that the new Provost takes the committee's charge seriously, as indicated by the presence of Associate Provost (D. Long) for a portion of meeting. The Unit Standards Committee discussed various measures of workload including class size, level of course, research activity and outside activities. It also recognized that workload will still to a large extent be determined by the Dean of any particular School. The work of the Unit Standards Committee will continue through the academic year, and it can be expected to produce a report for the Provost by the end of the academic year.

**Library:** The University Library staff gave a presentation on the work of the Library, and addressed the impact of budget cuts. The Library currently operates with a budget at 40% of its 2014 operating budget, necessitating various cuts. It has had a 50% loss of staffing, with a staff shortage across the library. There are very few acquisitions staffers, almost no cataloging staffers, and no preservation staff. It is "harder and harder" to find student employees. Various faculties have responded to the deteriorating conditions of the library: TRS, Language, Politics, and Nursing (which latter has lost an essential database).

There was a question about whether this change is happening across university libraries generally or is localized at CUA.

- *Response: Many university libraries budgets are being cut, but some of these experiences are particular to CUA. Much library work is invisible so the work is not seen; but the depth of the cuts are substantial and affect operations.*

- A question was raised about a conversation one faculty had with the President of the Graduate Student Association (GSA, reported 10/23 meeting minutes), according to which 1) the graduate student study room was to be removed and replaced with “group study space”; 2) removal of numerous books from the circulating collection of Mullen Library after the library construction to be completed in 2028, and 3) large number of journals scheduled to be cancelled, including journals used by Semitics, Greek and Latin, and Philosophy (which are scheduled to be cancelled over Christmas break).
  - *Response: The proposed changes were confirmed.*
  - Dr. Selway, who chairs the Academic Services Committee of the Academic Senate, reported that the committee has been trying to determine what is needed in the library; it is considering gathering data and sending to the Senate. The new Chair of the Academic Senate has asked for meetings with the Academic Services Committee to discuss the impact of library cuts.
  - Dr. Paxton suggested that we (the faculty) need some input and a way to gather input from all the faculty in order to learn the whole picture of their needs for prioritizing cuts.

Finally, there was discussion of the searches for new deans of NCSSS, and Arts and Sciences. Some faculty were concerned that President Garvey has proposed placing both donors and members of the Board of Trustees on search committees, which would be a violation of the procedure mandated in the Faculty Handbook. Some faculty noted a previous attempt to include donors during the last search for Dean of Arts and Sciences.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10.