**CUA Faculty Assembly**

**General Meeting, April 8, 2022**

**Minutes**

Dr. Selway called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

In attendance were twenty-six faculty from the Schools of Architecture and Planning, Arts and Sciences, Law, Music, Drama, and Art, Nursing, TRS, and NCSSS.

Dr. Selway provided a recap of the last Faculty Assembly meeting. She then opened up a conversation about welcoming the new President. A consensus arose that prior to his arrival the Faculty Assembly Executive Board should write the new President introducing the Faculty Assembly and inviting him to a meeting. The Executive Board will request to meet with the President first, and it was agreed that it would be good to include the Provost in our communications.

Discussion of the announced raises ensued. It remains unclear if the 3% raise will be based on the pre-reduction salary for each faculty member. There was a strong consensus that it should be and that for the administration to do otherwise would be counterproductive, since the damage to goodwill would outweigh the very small budgetary savings. CoFew will be meeting with Mr. Specter and will ask for clarification about this matter.

The Assembly then discussed the fact that Mr. Victor Smith, the Chair of the Board of Trustees, has not replied to the February 8 letter sent from Nursing colleagues, signed by many present at the meeting, expressing dismay at the President’s opinion piece “Covid and Scientism.” The two faculty representatives to the Board of Trustees reported that in their meeting with Mr. Smith, which took place as usual before the last Trustees’ meeting, Mr. Smith said that he was not going to respond to the letter. It was noted that the Board had allowed the Handbook to be changed to permit direct communication from the faculty. To many at the meeting, that the new Chair would rebuff a letter written in good faith and signed by 81 faculty members seems unfortunate for the entire University and flatly contradicts the Board’s stated commitment to improving communication with faculty.

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