

UNIVERSITY SENATE

A meeting of the University Senate was held at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, **11 February 2015**, in Maxwell Auditorium.

Present were: Senators Agnew, Aslan, Bahl, Bartolovich, Bulman, Burak, Burdick, Burstyn, Campagna, Carter, Coggiola, D'Amico, Davidson, Day, Diem, Dolak, Dudczak, Duke, Easton, El-Amir, Elin, Endreny, Erdman, Fadda-Conrey, Ferguson, Ford, Gauri, Gitner, Glidden, Godfrey, Gorovitz, Hagenloh, Heckman, Hoover, Ingram, Isik, Johnson (K.), Juarez, Kallander (G.), Keck, Kutcher, Lee, Lewandowski, Liddy, Linder, London, Lore, Marrero, Middlemiss, Moseson, Mosher, Mulvaney, Murphy, Nabatchi, Neary, Negussey, Nicholson, O'Rourke, Osborne, Padgett, Pellow, Perreault, Praino, Raina, Reed, Rubinstein, Sherman, Smith (C.), Sonneborn, Staniec, Stanton, Svetz, Syverud, Teres, Tucker, Van Gulick, Vanable, Wasylenko, Wiklund, Winders, Winkler.

Presiding officer: Prof. Can Isik

The Chairman called the meeting to order, and proposed that the minutes of the January 4th meeting be approved, as written. The body concurred.

Prof. Isik reported that the Agenda committee had been studying the potential role of the Senate in the Chancellor's Academic Strategic Plan, that a large number of senators had been involved in various working groups, but that they did not report to the Senate. Prof. Isik said that to make up for this, the Agenda Committee had been working with Interim Provost Liddy to have the 7 working groups with senators on them give a progress report in an open forum sometime in late February. The chairman also reported that the Agenda Committee was looking into a request for an ad hoc committee on disability concerns. In conclusion, Prof. Isik reminded senators about nominations for replacement of the faculty representative to the Board of Trustees, which was a two-year commitment. He called Prof. Teres who told the body that nominations of tenured faculty members were due February 15, and should be sent to the Academic Affairs committee. He urged members to nominate themselves or others for this important position.

Prof. Isik then called Prof. Christian Day to present the report of the Committee on Honorary Degrees, and asked that all non-senators exit the auditorium during the discussion and vote on the nominees. He also asked those members near the doors to invite the non-senators back in afterwards. Prof. Day presented his report, which included a motion. The motion carried.

The Chairman called Interim Vice Chancellor Liz Liddy to report briefly on the administrative searches currently in progress. Vice Chancellor Liddy thanked all who had helped and supported her in her transition into the interim position, and then reported that Dean Karin Ruhlandt had been appointed to lead the College of Arts

Report on dean searches, cont'd

and Sciences, and the body applauded. She further reported that a search for dean of the School of Education was in the process of a second round of interviews on campus. Liddy said that a search for dean of the College of Engineering and Computer Science had begun in the fall, and was in the midst of a first round of interviews. The Vice Chancellor finished her report with announcement that the search committee for a dean of the libraries, chaired by Prof. Jeff Stanton, had been seated and charged, had set their procedures, and had asked for input from the community to help them create a position profile. Liddy said this committee hoped to have recommendations by the end of the semester so that a library dean could be hired by July 1st.

Finally, Vice Chancellor Liddy told the members that presentation of the Academic Strategic Plan would be made at a series of meetings and conversation groups on February 25th, in the Schine Student Center, and that they would be getting more details by e.mail soon.

Prof. Isik then called on Prof. Tiffany Koszalka to present the report of the Curriculum committee, which included a motion to approve the list of changes and new courses and programs (Management, Sport & Human Dynamics). The motion carried.

The Chairman called Prof. Deborah Pellow, who presented the report of the Committee on the Library. Prof. Pellow said that during the year, the committee had focused on outside review of the library, resources, removal of bound periodicals from shelves to an off-campus facility, improvement of communication, all-University access to facilities, and the library dean search. She pointed out that as the Law Library was a congressionally-designated depository for U.S. government documents, and that as such public access was guaranteed. She said that there had been many complaints from the community of not being able to enter the law library, and that the policy ought to be reviewed.

Pellow reported that the library's progress continued to be impeded by shortfalls in the operations budget going back to Peter Graham's tenure as dean. She said it was a structural problem (i.e., insufficiencies totalling \$3.3 million, or 15% of the 2015 budget) that only the administration could choose to resolve.

Reporting on the Journals Migration Project, Pellow said that because of bad communication, the committee had not received timely information on the proposed movement of bound periodicals to a storage facility, and thus did not get a chance to discuss it as a group. However, she said, the committee was alerted to significant concerns from various units on campus, especially the School of Architecture, whose top ten national ranking was in no small part related to its Reading Room facilities. Pellow questioned the reasons for such a major project being announced at the last minute, and told the body that the Vice Chancellor had supported the move over objections from the libraries. She said that the committee's repeated questions about what percentage of the

periodicals in Architecture would be moved had not yet been answered. Pellow said that Architecture had been given a one-year suspension from the migration plan, and that the architecture students had begun a petition in protest of the way the move was being handled. Pellow pointed to the situation as a clear problem in communication from above.

In the discussion, questions raised and observations made by the body included:

- that there has always been a problem with shortfalls in the library budget, that there had been a \$500,000 payment for the sciences under the last vice chancellor (and a promise of two more \$500,000 payments, annually, a one-time funding to catch up), but that there was no structure to insure that the payments would be made;
- expression of concern over the inaccessibility of the law library; that there should by federal law be access to it as a depository of U.S. government documents;
- a member mentioned that one could apply for, and get, a library ID for access.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Teresa Gilman
University Senate Recorder