

Minutes  
Faculty Assembly meeting  
Tuesday, November 17, 2015

11:07 meeting brought to order

I. Approval October 2015 minutes

Mark Williams moved to approve agenda, Maryam Rahimi seconded, approved

II. Old Business

III. New Business

a. Maryland Charity Campaign..... Betty Fosque

- i. Richard Rudasill and Betty. Fosque did a presentation on the [www.mdcharity.org](http://www.mdcharity.org). There are currently 830 charities that participate in the campaign. Richard Rudasill says that you can give as little as a \$1 a day, and their goal is \$20,000 goal which is about \$20 a person. They are interested in the participation, not the amount from each person. They highlighted a program called “Thankful Paws.” Please consider giving, and pledging online is preferred. Pledge cards were placed in the back.

b. Updates from Academic Affairs.....Dr. Patrick Liverpool

- i. “Good turnout for faculty assembly.”
- ii. Feedback on town hall meeting: This morning he attended an exit interview for a crediting body “Ascend” for the dietetics project. It was a focus review team and the program was accredited and they reduced accredited time to July 17. There is a need to be transparent. The main issue pertained to our pass rate for the registered dieticians. The program is relatively small, if we have two students take boards, one person passes, then it is a 50% pass rate which is an indicator to come back. The faculty have been working very hard and diligently. They are increasing the size of program, and currently have 100% pass rate, which is moving in the right direction. The feedback from the visiting team was very positive. We will know the results formally in July 2016. That is good news for us. Malinda Cecil says that it is hard to get the program noticed. The program is small, and it is a health program, which makes it hard to find in Human Ecology. Thank you for everyone’s help, and we are trying to increase our numbers. We want to give visibility to the program. It is an important discipline that has lots of value in this region.
- iii. Promotion and tenure (P & T) task force: Update. They are currently reviewing, and will make recommendation for both current P & T and Post deadline reviews move faster. The deadline for post P&T review for the state is as of January 1, 2016.

There will be a meeting on Dec. 10 for faculty to review and vote about document.

The regular P&T document will take a little longer, mid-spring, and will be submitted to this body.

The academic calendar- the Maryland system has a master calendar that we need to fit into. If we go with the system master calendar, 2016 to 2020, the date will run into the Christmas holiday, and on one case, Christmas day- 2020. Patrick Liverpool would like to move the dates back. An option would be to have seniors take their exams on the last week of classes. He talked to SU. They ran into the same problems. He will talk to the folks at the system level.

The first step is making everyone aware of the issue. He will come up with some options.

- iv. Lots of people attended the town hall meeting. It was not a pleasant meeting. The press report of the meeting was not consistent with what happened at the meeting. The main concerns of the town hall meeting focused on the issues of PA accreditation, the ongoing investigation of misuse of Hawk card by students, which includes the FBI, and Homeland Security. \$750,000 was taken. It was the student's town hall, they came ready to express frustrations. A lot of what they had to say was unpleasant about faculty members. There was negative criticisms about certain faculty members, they named names, and they were not repeated at the faculty assembly meeting. Some faculty members have a negative attitude about students' ability to succeed. The faculty member apparently told the class that they were not going to pass if they kept their current mindset. There were rude and nasty comments about the attitudes of faculty members and the chairs. The students talked about the inability of some faculty to convey information to students. The students discussed that there were some faculty not being prepared, and the students were not challenged in class. They mentioned that faculty have difficulty relaying information in class. The students wanted to know about the hiring and screening process of faculty members: where do they get these people from? Some courses have problems. They wanted to inquire about faculty evaluations, and if we look at the results, and what do we do with them? There is a low response rate for faculty evaluations from students, because they feel that we do not do anything about it.
- v. Unavailability of courses available for spring 2016. We shared the financial situation we are in. Adjunct budget has been busted. There is an enormous amount of under-enrolled classes, which is straining university resources. We need to be more effective about how we enroll the

students. It is ineffective and inefficient. We got the students excited about not having enough classes. We offered 1584 classes this fall. In the spring we are offering 1542 courses. This last spring was 1517. Normally we offer fewer classes in the spring. The mix of classes became the issue. The classes that the students need should be offered. A couple of other things from the meetings. The students raised the question about academic advisement. They contend that they are given wrong information, and little attention to get courses signed off on without people looking at what they need to take. Degree audit issues.

He knows that we have a lot of very good professors, and sometimes one or two create an issue. He did two unplanned visits to classrooms. Two diametrically opposed experiences. In one class, a professor that talking to the students asking a series of questions about the topic. There was no logic cohesion, no conceptional base, classroom was not organized, students were on laptops on other topics. He chose the class since it was a class that the students addressed.

The second professor, talked to the students, demonstrated something, students were engaged, were responding to questions and concepts, broke into groups, were demonstrating concepts. He was engaged, and he didn't know about the topic.

We have a lot of work to do. This university is under siege for a lot of things. WE need to solve these problems and address these issues. We need to address the fact that the students are not challenged. We need to make a difference, it is serious. We have a lot of problems. We have a tremendous amount of potential at this university.

Question from the floor?

PT committee- there is no method for visitations for classes-every chair should be visiting classrooms. It is part of responding to concerns. It is part of the review for faculty members.

From the floor-concerns about cancelled classes taught by adjuncts.

There is no directive about cutting adjunct taught classes, the issue is the under enrolled classes. In some disciplines, class size is one or two particularly for art and music. The budget is not completely spent, but he needs to figure out how to spend the remaining amount. We need to offer the courses that the students need.

A chair said that we had an adjunct budget. He had to cancel 22 of his 25 adjunct taught classes. Dr. Appleton said that we could not use unused lines. He needs to have one unified message, and one voice.

Cutting the adjunct budget cut most of the general education classes.

The president is committed to have the classes taught. He said that the economics of this doesn't make sense. Class sizes is an issue.

From the floor: It means a great deal to address the issues. We have faculty that have low morale. The physical classrooms could be hazardous if we have a full classroom. Some people are extremely frustrated and perhaps that those frustrations sometimes spill out in in other places.

If we know what the rules are, we can follow them. There are so many changes in what we are told, so that it is difficult to know where we stand.

Patrick Liverpool: We need to discuss issues of consistency, and fairness, and trying to streamline basics to operate efficiently. We need to treat people with respect, the way we want to be treated.

You don't let people drive you crazy if you don't give them the keys. He will address the issues.

c. Updates from Task Force on Class Size .....Dr. Dean Cooledge

Faculty evaluations, we want to return to paper evaluations: we had nearly 100% participations.

There is a task force on class size, will be meeting later this week to look at, and to lead to a proposal for under-enrolled courses for the undergraduate courses. The committee will look at the total number of courses, and the frequency that they are offered. He will look at faculty workloads/overloads, He wants to avoid a blanket policy. The task force is composed of Bill Chapin, Dean Cooledge, Mark Williams, Stephanie Hollowell, Michael Reid, and Beatrice Nelson,

IV. Announcements

a. Willing to entertain a motion for a joint meeting with the faculty assembly and the senate on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Bill Chapin so moved, and Michel Demanche made the second.

b. The call meeting is December 10<sup>th</sup> for the P &T and the post tenure review.

V. Adjournment 12:17.

**Attendance**

Stephanie Hallowell	Honor's program
Dean Cooledge	English
La Porchia Davis	Human Ecology
Latacha Wade	Provost Office/Pharmacy
Ahmed Elnabawi	DNS
Dennis Klema	PT PHP
George Steer	PT PHP
Bessie Green	Agriculture

Jeffrey Molavi	Tech
Susan Holt	Fine Arts
Michel Demanche	Fine Arts
Sharon D. Brooks	Library
Willie Brown	Engineering and Aviation
Marvella Rounds	Library
Marilyn Buerkle	DEML
Ken Kundell	IT
Lombuso Khoza	HUEC
David Alston	Social Sciences
Brian Dean	Fine Arts
Patrick McHenry	Fine Arts
Israe Butler	Fine Arts
Deb Sauder	DNS
Fanuel Chirombo	Library
Cynthia Nyrienda	Library
Jacqueline Brice Finch	DEML
Ron Webster	DEML
Bonni Miller	DEML
Cynthia Cravens	DEML
Daniela Raducanu	DEML
Nelseta Walker Jones	Criminal Justice
Ray Davis	Arts and Professions
TH Baughman	Social Science
Junior Hopwood	Soc. Science
Sherry Mazkrante	Soc. Science
Beatrice Nelson	EXSC
Erika Bramlette,	PAC PA dept.
Ronne Allen	SO PHP
Tiffany Maxwell	PA Department
Maryam Rahimi	Rehab
Donna Satterlee	HUEC
Cathy Ferraro	HUEC
Chris Harrington	Fine arts
Terry Smith	DEML
Mark. E. Williams	Math and CS
Grace Namwamba	HUEC
Bill Chapin	Math and CS
Grace Pokoo Aikins	DNS
Brian Perez	Fine Arts
Phil Runita	Fine Arts
Margarita Treuth	Kinesiology
Kingsley Ejiohu	CJ
Joseph Davis	DEML
Kate Brown	BMA
Mark Freebery	Pharmacy

Jim Bresette	Pharmacy
Malinda Cecil	HUEC
Sarah Acquah	Agric
Marie-Therese Oyalouro	Pharmacy
Marcos Cheney	DNS
Kausik Das	DNS
Yuanwei Jin	ENG
Lei Zhang	ENG
Lisa Zheng	Rehab
Hwei C. Wang	DBMA
Lily Tsai	Criminal Justice