Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, May 1, 2012, 4:00 PM Alumni House, MCV, 1016 E. Clay St.


The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m.
Minutes of the April 3rd meeting were approved as read.
The agenda was reviewed and announcements were made.

Recognitions and Special Awards: President Fauri recognized the following senators and thanked them for their special service. All were presented with tokens of appreciation: Alan Briceland, Lisa Brown, Cindy Donnell, Dan Ream and Valerie Robnolt. The names of the retiring senators and alternates were read and all were thanked.

Provost’s Comments: Provost Warren began with thanks to senators for their work on Quest, UC Bylaws, Promotion and Tenure Review Committee, MPC Research Strategy, the Grievance Policy, Academic Programs Reviews, the Great Place Initiative, searches and on and on. She noted that service is heavy labor and it seems that it often goes unappreciated, but civic engagement and shared governance require that we go the extra mile. Her remarks concluded with an update on ongoing searches.

Information Items
1. June Nicholson updated us on rules revisions and Bob Andrews presented updates on UC Faculty Affairs Committee and Shared Governance. Mary Secrest, chair of the Promotion and Tenure Review Committee presented an update.

2. Some College and School elections are completed but not all. If elections are not held before fall semester commences some schools will not have full representation in the Senate.

Action Items
1. Division of Student Affairs membership on Faculty Senate: Unanimously approved.

2. Grievance Procedures Revisions: Scott Street and Dan Ream presented the final version of the Grievance Policy for a vote. One of the most significant changes in the final document, and cause of much discussion, was the elimination of the School level grievance panel. Challenges to the proposed change were brought by Stephen Alder (for Cohen) and Michael McVoy. McVoy pointed us to the significant difficulties tenured faculty would face if they were to grieve without the current school level panel. Amore moved to table the document until September; Manjili and Briceland seconded. The approval of the document was tabled until fall. Aye – 44 Nay – 1 Abstain – 3

Legislative Update: Mark Rubin, Executive for Legislative Relations presented the update. He brought us information about the budget, tuition increases, VRS (increase in employer contribution but none for employees), a proposed 3% bonus for state employees, and indigent care. We now have a “Joe Paterno
Law”: Every employee has an obligation to report child abuse. The tuition waiver for the children of faculty was not approved. VCU has hired the lobbying firm of Holland and Knight to find money for research.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:39

Respectfully submitted: Cynthia Donnell, Recording Secretary