Leadership Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, August 18, 2:30-6:00 PM, Student Commons Alumni Room, MPC
http://www.vcu.edu/maps/acmap/wm

Attendance: Holly Alford, Kristy Artello, Lisa Brown, Brian Daugherity, Nancy Jallo, Michael McVoy, Marilyn Miller, June Nicholson, Joan Pellegrini, Carmen Rodriguez, Mary Secret, Scott Street, Jennifer Wayne, Erin White

2:30 -- Meeting called to order
Holly Alford

2:31 -- Introductions
Holly Alford

2:50 -- Minutes of May 5th meeting
Mary Secret
Discussed minutes and addition of Dr. Rao’s letter that was read in May.

Updates:

3:00 -- Grievance Policy
Marilyn Miller
Madelyn Wessel, University Counsel, has identified some issues with the current Faculty Mediation and Grievance Procedure. A meeting has been scheduled with the University Counsel, Provost Hackett, Marilyn Miller, June Nicholson, and Valerie Robnolt. Marilyn will report back at the September leadership meeting.

3:30 -- Membership update
Scott Street and Mike McVoy
Still need election results from the following schools: Arts, Business, Wilder, Education, Social Work, University College, VCU Libraries, Allied Health Professions, Nursing, Pharmacy. Mike McVoy and Scott Street will inquire of the outstanding schools.

3:40 -- University Budget issues
Holly Alford
David Fauri is no longer involved with the Faculty Senate; however, he is willing to work with a replacement (Brian Daugherity?).
3:50 -- Roll of 2015-2016 Senate Officers and UC reps. Holly Alford  
Holly distributed the portion of the Standing Rules that describes the duties of the Faculty Senate’s elected officers. We discussed the role of the campus representatives (historical and proposed future). It was suggested that a bullet-list “summary of the meeting” be distributed to the Senators shortly after the meetings.

Guests:  
4:10 -- Aashir Nasim  
Director of the Institute for Inclusion, Inquiry and Innovation (I^3)  
Dr. Nasim began by presenting his educational, research, and professional background. He discussed the how the Institute supports programs and what goes on behind the scenes to make that happen. (see attached file and [future] website)

4:40 -- Juanita Sharpe  
Asst. Vice Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs  
Discussed the lengthy review process for new policies due to sequential reviews and invited the Faculty Senate to be involved in discussions related to improving this review process (possibly using concurrent reviews). Challenge is to include all relevant voices in the process without stifling the process. Suggestions for improving transparency of approval processes were provided. Further discussions will be held with the relevant committees in hopes of a collaborative proposal for improvements/adjustments to come in the future.

Pitch: “Nominate your peers for awards!!!”

Discussion Items:  
5:25 -- Senate Priorities for the 2015-16 year Holly Alford  
and September 1st Faculty Senate meeting  
Shared governance continues to be a top priority for Faculty Senate. Mary Secret and Bob Andrews (retired) will meet soon with Provost Hackett to discuss shared governance and present the history and viewpoints of Faculty Senate related to shared governance.

Faculty Senate will work with Wanda Mitchell as she discusses plans for revising unit 5-year diversity plans and incorporate an accountability component…another opportunity for shared governance.
We will work on interpersonal relationships and encourage Senators to meet their counterparts within their schools as well as those from their campus and those from the other campuses. This should help with networking and interdisciplinary collaboration.

Revision of the Bylaws of the Faculty and of the Standing Rules of the Faculty Senate will be completed and presented this year.

We will inquire of the Senators what issues are affecting them in their units. One potential issue mentioned was that of evaluating administrators (Deans, Asst./Assoc. Deans, etc.).

September 1st Meeting:
  - President Rao
  - Chief Venuti – Bike Race update
  - Reuban Rodriguez – Honor Code revision
  - Provost Hackett

University Council Representatives: (nominated…vote of confirmation by Senate at next meeting)
  - June Nicholson
  - Scott Street
  - Carmen Rodriguez (alternate)
  - Jennifer Wayne (alternate)

6:10 – President’s Report
Holly Alford
Holly summarized the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

6:20 – Adjournment
Holly Alford