FACULTY SENATE
Tuesday, December 5, 2017
3:30 – 5:15 pm
Senate Chamber, Old Capitol

MINUTES


Officers Present:  R. Ganim, P. Snyder, T. Vaughn, R. Williams.


Guests:  C. McKinney (Office of Strategic Communication), F. Mitros (Emeritus Faculty Council), M. Payne (Daily Iowan), T. Rice (Office of the Provost), E. Wangen (Daily Iowan), L. Zaper (Faculty Senate Office).

I. Call to Order – President Snyder called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. He reminded the group that following the meeting the Senate’s annual reception would be held for our local legislators in the Old Capitol rotunda.

II. Approvals
A. Meeting Agenda –Professor Lehan Mackin moved and Professor Gillan seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
B. Faculty Senate Minutes (October 24, 2017) – Professor Gillan moved and Professor Wurster seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.
C. Committee Appointments (Russ Ganim, Chair, Committee on Committees)
   • Christopher Benson (Internal Medicine) to fill the unexpired term of Patrick Brophy (Pediatrics) on the Faculty Council, Spring 2018
Prabhat Goswami (Radiation Oncology) to fill the unexpired term of Patrick Brophy (Pediatrics) on the Faculty Senate, 2017-19

Donald Macfarlane (Internal Medicine) to fill the unexpired term of Lynda Ostedgaard (Internal Medicine) on the Faculty Senate, 2017-19

Damani Phillips (Music) to fill the unexpired term of Deborah Whaley (American Studies) on the Charter Committee on Diversity, 2017-20

Professor Mallik moved and Professor Durham seconded that the committee appointments be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Faculty Senate Elections 2018 Vacancy Tally – President Snyder explained that Senate approval of the vacancy tally is necessary before we can move ahead with our election process in the spring semester. Professor Gillan moved and Professor Marshall seconded that the vacancy tally be approved. The motion carried unanimously.

III. New Business

• Academic Organization 2020 Update (Tom Rice, Office of the Provost)

  Professor Rice reminded the group that the 2020 committee is charged with looking at long-range (5-15 years) planning for the university. The committee is defining structure broadly, in terms of how we structure our work, our curriculum, our units, etc. Currently, the committee is in the midst of a listening phase, having met thus far with about two dozen campus groups, with more meetings planned. Three open forums have taken place. The committee will meet soon to begin mapping out their next steps over the coming few months. Members will begin collecting the ideas they have been hearing. More ideas are always welcome and can be submitted through the committee’s website, https://uiowa.edu/acad-org-2020/forms/inputfeedback, or through a meeting with the committee. By the end of the holiday break, the committee members should have a substantial list of the ideas that have been presented to them. The committee will then share those ideas with faculty, staff and students for reaction and feedback. This will be an ongoing process throughout the early part of the spring semester. Using this feedback, the committee will refine the ideas and then present these ideas to the president and provost shortly after spring break.

  Professor Mallik urged that the forums be held at times convenient for members of the university community. Professor Rice noted that the forums have been held at different times on different days to accommodate as many people as possible. Professor Logsdon suggested that additional forums be held towards the end of the process, so that the university community has the opportunity to respond to the likely directions that the committee’s work will be taking at that time. Professor Rice agreed with this approach, commenting that it is the committee’s intention to bring a core set of ideas to the campus for extensive feedback. This feedback will be used to further polish the original ideas for presentation to the president and provost. Professor Rice added that if anyone had additional ideas for reaching out to the campus community to please let him know. The discussions that the committee has had so far with campus groups have been very meaningful and productive.

  President Snyder asked if any themes have emerged thus far from the committee’s conversations. Professor Rice commented that some suggestions revolved around putting
significant resources into specific areas so that the university could become the world’s leader in those particular areas. Other suggestions sought to explore the individualization of faculty portfolios, so that each faculty member could spend more time on his/her strengths. Enhanced training of administrators has also emerged as a theme. A senator asked if a forum would be held right before the ideas are presented to the president and provost, so that the university community will know exactly what will be in the committee’s report. Professor Rice indicated an openness to consider this. Professor Mallik concurred that the university community should be able to see the committee’s final direction before the process concludes. Professor Rice observed that there likely will be some degree of tension among the ideas presented. Professor Macfarland noted that there had been discussion of process today, but not of goals. He suggested a goal, which is to use our limited resources to give our students the best education possible. The purpose of this education would be to increase the probability that our students will go on to have a fine career and a fine family, and will contribute to the creation of a great community. If we keep our goals in mind, everything else should fall into place. Professor Rice noted that the committee is using the current strategic plan as its framework to guide its thinking.

- **Office of the Ombudsperson Annual Report (Susan Johnson and Kristal Gibson, University Ombudspersons)**

Professor Johnson reminded the group that the Office of the Ombudsperson operates under the principles of confidentiality, neutrality, informality, and independence, and reports directly to the University President. She then presented statistics from the Office’s annual report. The number of visitors to the Office has grown annually from 83 in 1986–87 to 667 in 2016–17 (10% higher than last year). The Office has not identified a specific reason for the increase in visitors from 2015-16 to 2016-17. Faculty members made up 16% of the types of visitors last year. About 4% of regular-track faculty visited the Office, a higher percentage than that of any other group. Women are always overrepresented among Office visitors; women made up 70% of visitors, while comprising only 56% of the campus community. The increase over last year was caused by female Human Resources representatives, departmental executive officers, and other administrators consulting with the Office in significant numbers. There is also typically an overrepresentation of racial and ethnic minorities, although this year’s 19% was slightly lower than previously.

Noting that visitors could come to the Office with more than one concern, Professor Johnson indicated that the largest percentage of visitor concerns involved hierarchical relationship issues (53%). Other concerns were related to peer relationships (13%), career/academic progression (9%), policy violations (7%), etc. Disrespectful behavior as a visitor concern has grown from 12% in 2007 to 29% in 2017. The percentage has plateaued for the past several years. Comparisons with similar data from the Working@Iowa survey do not indicate that such behavior has increased on campus. There has been a rise in the number of administrators consulting with the Office for advice on how to handle situations in their units; this is a positive sign. The Office has begun tracking potential organizational risks to the university. In 31% of the cases last year there was no perceived organizational risk. About 37% of cases potentially could cause loss of productivity. Other cases could cause substantially lower rates of risk (e.g., policy violations, turnover, grievances, etc.). Professor Caplan questioned whether turnover is always a negative result. Professor Johnson concurred that turnover is not uniformly negative for a unit.
Professor Johnson noted that the Office conducted 47 presentations and 73 workshops last year. Because the number of visitors to the Office has been increasing each year, an additional temporary part time Ombudsperson, Kristal Gibson, was added to the staff. Ms. Gibson indicated that she is an attorney and has also worked in the UI Dean of Students Office. In each annual report, the Ombudspersons note prominent campus issues during that time period. Professor Johnson commented that supervisory effectiveness is a current concern of the Office and stressed the need for formal supervisory training for those, including faculty leaders (DEO’s and lab principal investigators), who find themselves supervising employees without much background or training in this area. The Office suggests that the university adopt a consistent approach to on-boarding new supervisors and that new supervisors take advantage of the training opportunities available to them. Professor Johnson noted an improvement in the constructive management of work-related conflict across campus, as evidenced in responses to the most recent Working@Iowa survey. The Office contributed to this effort through coaching and training sessions. A survey given to Office visitors and returned by about 45% of them has indicated an 80% satisfaction rate with the Office’s services.

Past President Vaughn asked if there was any relationship between the increase in the number of female visitors and complaints of disrespectful behavior. Professor Johnson responded that the Office has not examined this relationship thus far and reminded the group of the reason she had stated earlier for the rise in the number of female visitors (i.e., more consults by female administrators). Professor Mallik asked about the satisfaction rate of those visitors who had not returned the survey. Professor Johnson answered that this was unclear, but that the response rate was typical for such surveys. Professor Mallik asked if the disrespectful behavior reported to the Office included hateful language. Professor Johnson responded that this did not appear to be the case.

Concluding her presentation, Professor Johnson commented that she was retiring from the university in the summer and that a search will soon be underway for her replacement as faculty ombudsperson. She urged senators to encourage qualified candidates to apply.

Professor Tachau moved and Professor Durham seconded that the Faculty Senate thank Professor Johnson for her many and varied years of service to the university. The motion was approved via applause.

Committee on Access and Use of Faculty Data Update (Christina Bohannan, Faculty Fellow, Office of the Provost, and Suzanne Malo, APR Project Coordinator, ITS)

Professor Bohannan indicated her intention to inform senators about the role of the new Committee on Access and Use of Faculty Data (AUFD). The committee is comprised of faculty, staff, and administrators, and it advises the Office of the Provost regarding the appropriate and ethical usage of faculty data. Professor Bohannan noted that the administration is constantly collecting data on faculty. The Academic and Professional Record (APR) is just one source of this data. Collected data may include information about research topics, travel destinations, course syllabi, etc., obtained from other university sources. The committee also advises on making the APR more user-friendly. There are several reasons why the APR and the AUFD Committee should be of interest to faculty. First of all, the APR is used by some colleges in
conducting faculty reviews, so ease of use is important. Faculty could also find the data helpful, for example, faculty could use the APR search functions to locate research collaborators on campus. Finally, the AUFD Committee advises regarding access to and use of faculty members’ personal and professional data.

Professor Bohannan then provided some background on the APR, which was originally created as a system of independent collegiate databases. Those separate databases have now been merged into one. Faculty initially used the APR for creating CV’s, but there are other potential applications. However, faculty have found the process of inputting data to be burdensome and have questioned the APR’s usefulness. Therefore, representatives from the Office of the Provost have met with faculty and administrative groups this semester to seek input on future directions. Thus far colleges have used the APR for the creation of faculty CV’s, faculty web profiles, collegiate accreditation reports, and faculty recognition. In addition to these collegiate uses, there are already a number of university-wide applications of the APR. For example, the Office of the Provost recently contacted faculty members who have served on National Science Foundation panels to ask if they would be willing to mentor junior faculty in grant writing. While a research collaboration search tool has been available for some time, a similar teaching collaboration search tool is under consideration.

Turning to future opportunities for the APR, Professor Bohannan indicated that there are plans to pull data from other campus data sources, such as MAUI and Sponsored Programs, into the APR system so that faculty do not have to input so much information. The APR database could be used to retrieve information about faculty publications and awards, as well as about faculty contributions to the state (e.g., service, grants, presentations, etc.), to increase recognition for these activities and accomplishments. This data could also be used in support of the university’s Association of American Universities (AAU) membership and Carnegie designation. Regarding the focus of the AUFD Committee, Professor Bohannan commented that the committee will be discussing the ethical and appropriate use of faculty data. This would include suggesting and communicating policies and processes for accessing and using APR data, overseeing development of technological methods of protecting sensitive information, advising on changes to the APR to meet campus needs, and monitoring external scrutiny of faculty work.

Professor Bohannan indicated that there is a need for faculty input at this stage. The AUFD Committee seeks to learn what faculty would like to see changed in the APR, what kind of applications could be added, what type of data should not be included in the APR, and into which databases faculty currently input information. Professor Barnhardt asked about the committee’s approach to sharing data with third parties and to sharing data for human subjects research. Professor Bohannan responded that the committee had not yet addressed these important issues. Ms. Malo added that any sharing of data about a faculty member would be communicated to that faculty member. Professor Barnhardt commented that faculty members likely feel differently about their data being accessed for internal, institutional research purposes than they do about that data being shared externally, which could raise many questions. She urged that the committee keep this in mind during future deliberations.

Professor Tachau observed that faculty members currently input data into the APR via the Human Resources Self-Service system. This proximity of APR records to personnel data should
serve to delimit how we should treat external requests for information, at least until a faculty member voluntarily agrees to make the information accessible. Also, CV formats should reflect the established section order for specific disciplines. Currently there is only one section order format available. And, there should be better technical support for foreign language citations within CV’s. Professor Logsdon commented that he could not find information about the AUFD Committee on the university website. He asked how the committee members were selected and who is on the committee. Professor Bohannan responded that the Office of the Provost website is being renovated and this has led to delays in posting committee information. She added that there is faculty representation from every college and that this membership includes several senators. The Office of the Provost has selected the committee members with input from collegiate administration. Associate Provost for Faculty Kevin Kregel and Assistant Provost for Faculty Diane Finnerty also serve on the committee, along with representatives from Information Technology Services (ITS) and University Libraries. Professor Logsdon suggested that if the committee ends up being a long-term endeavor, it should perhaps become a charter committee.

Following up on Professor Tachau’s earlier comment, Professor Mallik suggested that each college have assistance available to faculty members in making the APR CV conform to the specifications and requirements of individual disciplines. Ms. Malo commented that there are project leads in place for each college who can provide this assistance. A list of the project leads and faculty representatives will be made available to senators following the meeting. Vice President Ganim commented that workshops had been held in the past to provide training on inputting data into the APR system. He asked if additional workshops would be held in the future. Ms. Malo indicated that they likely would be. A senator asked what kinds of external requests for information the committee had received. Professor Bohannan responded that the committee had not received such requests thus far, but that the university frequently receives open records requests.

Professor Barnhardt asked if the Information Technology Advisory Charter Committee (ITAC) had been involved with the AUFD Committee in any way. Professor Bohannan thought that there had been some contact with ITAC early on, but added that perhaps the AUFD Committee would pursue further interaction with ITAC. Professor Mallik asked, in light of the Freedom of Information Act, how secure the APR data was. Professor Bohannan responded that at this time, all of the APR data is obtainable by the public from other sources (the APR itself is not publicly available). The committee is considering what portion of that data could be classified as personnel records, and therefore confidential. However, even here, it is not entirely clear what the scope of the statute is regarding confidential personnel records.

- **Vice President for Research and Economic Development Search (David Gier, Professor, Music and Aliasger Salem, Professor, Pharmacy, co-chairs of the VPR&ED Search Committee)**

Professor Gier explained that, in addition to finding a new Vice President for Research and Economic Development following the departure of Dan Reed, the search committee has also been tasked with evaluating the current structure of the Office and the Office’s service to the institution. The committee will produce a report and recommendations that will inform the
construction of the job description. Once that description is approved, the search process will be initiated. Professor Gier added that the committee is undertaking its review in the context of conversations about academic reorganization, budget structures, central service reviews, etc.

Professor Salem indicated that, as part of the process of evaluating the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development, the search committee is conducting a series of interviews with various stakeholders who interact with the Office. These stakeholders include Research Council, Humanities Advisory Board, Path Forward Research and Discovery Subcommittee, Research/Economic Development Central Service Review Committee, and research offices of Big Ten and other peer institutions (Rutgers, Indiana, Michigan, and Purdue thus far). The search committee also plans to interview some former UI Vice Presidents for Research (Meredith Hay, Jordan Cohen), the VPR advisory boards, Sponsored Programs, Human Subjects Office, VPR staff, VPR center directors, Council of Deans, collegiate associate deans for research, and Arts Advancement Committee. Two open forums are planned, one on each side of the river. The purpose of these meetings is to acquire feedback regarding the strengths and weaknesses of the current office. The search committee hopes to initiate the search in January or February. Professor Salem encouraged senators to send their feedback on the office’s strengths and weaknesses to Michael L. Weaver, who is collecting this information for the committee.

Professor Salem then listed the members of the search committee: David Gier (co-chair), Professor & Director, School of Music, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences; Aliasger Salem (co-chair), Professor, Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, College of Pharmacy; Erin Brothers, Senior Sponsored Research Specialist, Division of Sponsored Programs and Past President, University of Iowa Staff Council; Christopher Cheatum, Associate Professor, Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Faculty Fellow, Office of the Vice President for Research & Economic Development; Meenakshi Durham, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communication; Dorothy Johnson, Professor of Art, Area Head, Art History Division, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences; Justine Kolker, Associate Professor, Operative Dentistry, College of Dentistry; Teresa Mangum, Director, Obermann Center for Advanced Studies and Professor, Gender, Women’s, and Sexuality Studies; Tonya Peeples, Associate Dean for Diversity and Outreach and Professor, Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, College of Engineering; Tejasvi Sharma, President, Graduate & Professional Student Government; Jacob Simpson, President, Undergraduate Student Government; Pete Snyder, Professor, Internal Medicine and President, Faculty Senate; Peter Thorne, Professor and Department Head, Occupational and Environmental Health, College of Public Health; George Weiner, Director, Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center and Professor, Internal Medicine, Carver College of Medicine; Patricia Winokur, Executive Dean, Carver College of Medicine and Professor, Internal Medicine.

Professor Gillan, a former chair of the Research Council, observed that the addition of economic development responsibilities to the Office is a relatively recent phenomenon, one that, he felt, was not a good fit. He asked if it was common at other institutions to combine these responsibilities. Professor Salem responded that the committee has learned through its interviews that the term economic development means different things to different people, so the committee is still trying to achieve clarity on this definition. He added that economic
development is also dealt with differently at different institutions. The committee is gathering feedback on those various structures and whether they work well or not. Based on that feedback, the committee hopes to make a recommendation on the best approach for moving forward. Professor Logsdon asked if the search committee had discussed separating those two jobs (research and economic development). Professor Salem responded that the committee does have the option of making that recommendation, but it is not yet prepared to do so. The committee still needs to obtain more feedback on this issue and study that feedback carefully.

Professor Macfarlane voiced extreme dissatisfaction with the Office as it is currently run. He commented that, for example, the period of time needed for approval of a proposed pharmaceutical drug trial is unacceptably long. He suggested that the Office report quarterly to the Senate on the reasons for such delays. Professor Salem indicated that the committee eagerly welcomes all feedback, positive and negative. Commenting on the search committee’s evaluation of the Office prior to launching the search, Professor Tachau observed that the usual practice for central administrative reviews is for the Faculty Senate in partnership with the University President to conduct full-scale reviews on a periodic basis. These reviews typically span twelve to eighteen months. She suggested that the committee consult previous review reports. Professor Salem indicated that the committee has done this.

Professor Barnhardt urged that the input of the professional colleges not be neglected in the committee’s work. Professor Salem stressed that each college’s feedback will be carefully considered and that the committee will be in contact with the associate deans for research in all of the colleges. President Snyder suggested that the co-chairs return to the Senate when the committee is about to make its recommendations, so that senators can offer input about any recommended changes to this important office. Vice President Ganim noted that the report of the Research/Economic Development Central Service Review Committee is due in early February. It is important to align the work of the two committees. Professor Salem observed that two members of the search committee also serve on the central service review committee; this prevents duplication of efforts.

**AAUP Sanction Removal Committee Update (Sandy Daack-Hirsch, Chair)**

President Snyder gave a brief report on behalf of Professor Daack-Hirsch, who was unable to attend the meeting today. He indicated that the committee is making a lot of progress, including drafting documents responding to problems identified by the national American Association of University Professors (AAUP) in our last presidential search, as well as describing best practices for future presidential searches. President Snyder noted that there has been an amazing collaboration among the committee members, members of the Board of Regents, and members of the local and national AAUP during this process. The draft documents are circulating among these individuals now for feedback. The committee’s goal is to have these documents reviewed by the Faculty Council and the Faculty Senate at the first meetings of the spring semester.

Professor Mallik asked when the national AAUP would act on these documents. President Snyder indicated that the national AAUP would meet in June, but that a number of steps would need to be taken before that date. All constituencies (Faculty Senate, Board of Regents, local AAUP chapter) would need to have approved these documents before they are conveyed to the national AAUP for review. Representatives from the national AAUP would then make a site visit,
write a report, and meet with a national committee. President Snyder commented that this is an ambitious timeline, but it seems attainable. Professor Macfarland asked if the Board of Regents will be bound by this process. President Snyder responded that these are University of Iowa documents, but that by including the Regents as collaborators in this process, we believe that they will utilize these documents in future searches. Professor Gillan, a member of the committee, commented that there has been a positive reaction from the Regents regarding the proposed best practices. Professor Durham, another member of the committee, added that the Regents have already been adhering to some of these best practices in the recent ISU and UNI presidential searches. President Snyder thanked everyone involved in this process for their work.

- President’s Report (Pete Snyder)

President Snyder gave a report on various items of interest to senators.

President Snyder thanked the senators who participated in the collegiate delegation meetings with the Senate officers during the fall semester. He noted that one of the themes that emerged during those meetings was a shortage of resources for faculty in their teaching and research, along with an overabundance of service commitments. President Snyder indicated that the officers would convey these concerns to the administration.

Provost Curry has indicated that she will move ahead with the search for a permanent dean for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Co-chairs for the search committee will be named soon. They are expected to be a dean and a CLAS faculty member. The search committee members will be named at the start of the spring semester. Provost Curry has been soliciting input regarding potential members from the CLAS Faculty Assembly, the CLAS associate deans, and the Faculty Senate officers. President Snyder invited input from the senators. Provost Curry’s decision to move forward with the search was based in part on feedback she received from senators at a meeting earlier this semester. President Snyder thanked senators for providing that feedback.

Professor Tachau commented that in the last several CLAS dean searches, some search committee members had been elected by the CLAS faculty. She asked if that would be done this time. President Snyder commented that Provost Curry is following procedures that she has used with other dean searches, which is to obtain feedback from shared governance bodies. How those groups obtain that feedback, however, is up to those groups. So, for example, CLAS Faculty Assembly could hold an election for potential search committee members. Professor Tachau noted that previously the dean’s office held these elections, because the office has access to the necessary technology. She added that, considering the morale in the college, perhaps Provost Curry might want to consider this option, which would be well-received by the faculty and contribute to a successful search. President Snyder commented that Provost Curry is committed to naming committee members from the suggestions that she receives. Vice President Ganim added that the CLAS DEO group and the CLAS Executive Committee are now working to put forth a list of names for the search committee, at the request of Provost Curry, who is actively seeking out extensive feedback.
Turning to the Path Forward initiative, President Snyder reminded the group that this effort is intended to provide a process for implementation of the strategic plan. There is now a steering committee, which includes the shared governance leaders. There are four working groups, three of which are based on pillars of the strategic plan (student success, research, outreach), while the fourth working group focuses on the values of diversity, equity, inclusion, and collaboration. Co-chairs have been named for the working groups: Cornelia Lang (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences) and Sarah Hansen (Division of Student Life) for student success, Ted Abel (Carver College of Medicine) and Corinne Peek-Asa (College of Public Health) for research, Pete Damiano (College of Dentistry) and Sherry Watt (College of Education) for outreach, and Claire Fox (College of Liberal Arts and Sciences) and Sherree Wilson (Carver College of Medicine) for cultural values. The process is underway for naming the members of the working groups, which are expected to begin meeting in January. The groups’ first goal will be to prioritize the critical tasks in the strategic plan.

The Faculty Senate and the Office of the President are charged with reviewing central academic offices and officers (vice presidents) once every seven years. For a variety of reasons, the review schedule has gotten off track, but will resume with the review of the Office of the Vice President for External Relations in the spring semester. Vice President Ganim will chair the review committee.

President Snyder participated in the university’s Hawkeye Caucus in Washington, D.C. earlier in the fall semester with other members of shared governance and the administration. Participants met with our Congressional delegations to advocate for matters important to the university and the faculty. President Snyder commented that the staff of our Office for External Relations are doing an amazing job advocating for the university. A senator expressed concern about some aspects of the tax reform bill currently under consideration by Congress. President Snyder commented that it appears unlikely that those provisions will be in the final version of the bill that Congress eventually passes.

IV. From the Floor – There were no items from the floor.

V. Announcements

• The next Faculty Council meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, 3:30-5:15 pm, University Capitol Centre 2390.
• The next Faculty Senate meeting will be Tuesday, February 13, 3:30-5:15 pm, Senate Chamber, Old Capitol.
• The Senate’s annual reception for local legislators will take place immediately following today’s meeting.

VI. Adjournment – Professor Tachau moved and Professor Lehan Mackin seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously. President Snyder adjourned the meeting at 5:10 pm.