

1
2 **ACADEMIC SENATE**
3 Meeting of February 24, 2016
4

5 **PLEASE NOTE MEETING VENUE**
6 School of Dentistry, Blaire Rooms (A, B, and C)
7 925 W. 34th Street, 90089-0641
8 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
9

10 Present: M. Apostolos, Y. Bar-Cohen, D. Brabham, T. Brun, J. Cain, J. Chisum, G. Clark, E. Collins, B. Danner, R. Davila, D.
11 Elliott, R. Garett, B. Girandola, H. Greenwald, A. Hancock, B. Jansson, J. Kagan, R. Labaree, R. Lonergan, E. McCann, A. Ouellette,
12 S. Palmer, J. Parr, M. Pensavalle, G. Ragusa, R. Rajagopalan, C. Resnik, P. Rosenbloom, D. Ruddell, K. Servis, S. Shroyer, J.
13 Silvester, J. Steele, N. Stoubis, C. Truhan, C. Wang, W. Ziebis
14

15 Absent: M. Burgos, P. Cannon, S. Curran, F. Habeeb, E. Johnson, R. Jubran, R. Paulson, A. Renteln, R. Smith, B. Stiles, C.
16 Templeman, R. Watanabe

17 Guests: M. Eshaghian, K. Howell, D. James, E. Johnson, M. Levine, J. McLaughlin-Gray, M. Quick, L. Unterman,
18

19 Ginger Clark, Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2 pm.
20

21 **Approval of January Senate Meeting Draft Minutes**

22 The January Senate meeting minutes were approved by acclamation.
23

24 **Discussion re: Textbook Options**

25 Ruben Davila and Darren James, Director of Retail for USC Auxiliary Services, presented a set
26 of textbook initiatives re: making sure the textbook process is smooth for students and faculty
27 and takes pricing into account. For Questions about USC Bookstore, contact darrenja@usc.edu;
28 for questions about the textbook store, which is located on the third floor, is Patrick Blackwell of
29 Follett and Darren can connect you. The handout that was distributed at the meeting will be made
30 available electronically.
31

32 **Academic Computing Report**

33 Yaniv Bar-Cohen, Chair of the USC's Research Committee summarized the findings and
34 presented the recommendations in the Academic Computing report, which was distributed
35 electronically as part of the Senate agenda packet. They sought an endorsement – Rebecca moved
36 and Darren seconded the motion to endorse – the motion passed 26 in favor; 1 abstention.
37

38 **Dialogue with the Provost**

39 Provost Quick provided three primary updates:
40

41 Unionization – SEIU filed an NLRB complaint and called for a re-vote in Dornsife based on
42 claims of an intimidating environment created by actions of the provost in school meetings and
43 memos. SEIU presented their arguments today; USC is to present their arguments tomorrow.
44 The outcomes available to the NLRB Regional Director, who will make the ruling, include: a re-
45 vote, a certification of the vote, or, if the actions are egregious, overturn the original vote against
46 the union in favor of establishing a union. There is an appeals process to the national NLRB
47 office in Washington, DC.
48

49 Provost Quick also announced a proposed collaboration (in the formative stages) between USC,
50 the City of Los Angeles, and the County of Los Angeles around resolving homelessness. This is
51 an ongoing conversation among Tom Sayles, Senior VP for University Relations and city/county
52 officials. The idea would be to have all stakeholders contribute resources to an “ending
53 homelessness” initiative/effort, but the process will start with a day-long symposium here at USC
54 in April. Moving forward from that includes a conversation between the provost and all the

55 schools about how to get at this issue – it is an issue that many if not all of our schools can
56 participate in, and there are already many efforts in this regard.

57

58 The provost also thanked everyone who participated in the Provost-Senate Retreat – there were
59 lots of good ideas and there are many things the university is working on. One thing he hears
60 from a lot of people is how chaotic everything is – but it is chaotic in a good way because we are
61 opening it up to conversation, shared governance and collaboration. We are moving the ship in
62 the right direction, including recommendations that have already been made by the Diversity
63 Task Force, including better data transparency and a kind of scorecard similar to those done by
64 Stanford, Harvard, etc. The Diversity Liaisons will be meeting tomorrow for the first time to
65 start determining the roles and responsibilities of the position, along with the deans’ reviews
66 being tied to progress on these issues. The deans are also being asked to create five-year plans
67 that will help in this review process and are completely on board with making this an aspect of
68 their review. Provost Quick also asked the GE committee to review the language of the Global
69 Perspectives category to make sure that the diversity requirement’s incorporation into this
70 category is more clear. The GE committee have submitted language to the Provost and it will be
71 submitted to the Curriculum Committee with a more explicit set of words around diversity in our
72 General Education curriculum.

73

74 **Part-Time Resolution**

75 The Part-Time Faculty Committee has revised the resolution and sent it back to President Clark.
76 She will look at it and send it out via email to the Senate so that it can be shared with the
77 respective faculty councils in advance of the next full Senate meeting in March.

78

79 **Nominating Committee**

80 There is one slot – Academic Vice President – that remains to be filled but otherwise the
81 nominations are proceeding nicely.

82

83 **Provost/Academic Senate Retreat**

84 There was a discussion of the recent retreat, which focused on access and opportunity. Ginger
85 Clark will distribute a summary document of the proceedings. Feedback included the idea of
86 pushing for a smoke free campus, encouraging the Staff Assembly to discuss climate, equity, and
87 inclusion, and engaging alumni in climate, equity, and inclusion efforts. There was also a
88 discussion on how to engage our colleagues in dialogues around the importance of diversity on
89 our campus.

90

91 **Announcement: Please note that the March 23rd meeting will be held in this venue, DEN,**
92 **Blaire Rooms A, B, & C, 2:00 - 4:00 pm.**

93

94 **New Business**

95

96 *The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.*

97

98 Respectfully submitted,

99

100 Ange-Marie Hancock, Ph.D.

101 Secretary General of the Academic Senate