

1 **ACADEMIC SENATE**
2 Meeting of October 15, 2014
3 HSC, Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute
4 Herklotz Conference Room (Room 112)
5 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

6 **MINUTES**
7

8 Taken by Els Collins and Ange-Marie Hancock

9 **Present:** G. Clark, E. Collins, A. Crigler, D. Davies, M. Eshaghian, L. Feters (alternate for Neville-Jan), H.
10 Greenwald, M. Gundersen, A. Hancock, J. Kagan, R. Lonergan, M. Madden, O. Mayer, L. Miller (alternate for R.
11 Weintraub), R. Mosteller, K. Murphy, A. Ouellette, S. Palmer, P. Rosenbloom, J. Silvester, I. Steinberg, M. Vicedo,
12 C. Wang, E. Webb, E. Weiss (alternate for L Palinkas), W. Ziebis

13 **Absent:** J. Barnett, P. Cannon, L. Carver, J. Chisum, S. Curran, R. Davila, A. Dowd, C. Gomer, J. Kopcsak, D.
14 Oakes, R. Paulson, W. Petak, B. Rathbun, C. Russel, D. Ruddell, R. Smith, J. Steele, M. Weinstein, R. Weisberg,

15 **Guests:** A. Carry, M. Levine, S. Honda, M. Nichol

16 **Approval of Senate Meeting Minutes**

17 Line 71 could be edited to “more broadly to address these issues” – Andre Ouellette. Motion to
18 approve the amended minutes as amended 16 approve, opposed 0; abstentions 0
19

20 **Dialogue with Ainsley Carry, Vice-Provost for Student Affairs**

21 Vice-Provost Carry introduced Alexis, a graduate student in the Rossier Higher Education degree
22 program who is participating in a shadowing exercise of USC administrators. He then provided the
23 Senate with an update regarding changes to the sexual assault policies, assistance and resources
24 available to students, and campus security protocols in light of recent events (including a complaint
25 filed with the Office of Civil Rights regarding sexual assault, national focus on sexual assault on
26 campuses, and the summer murder of Xinran Ji, an Engineering graduate student).
27

28 ***Sexual misconduct:***

29 a) Student Affairs has created a sexual assault resource center- consolidating information from
30 multiple websites and to ensure it provides current information consistent with the recent California
31 changes to the law (Yes means Yes). This includes an amnesty program for students who have been
32 drinking while under age if they are assisting a fellow student who has been assaulted or they
33 themselves have been assaulted.
34

35 b) Student Affairs has also doubled the size of the Center for Women and Men and transferred it to
36 Engemann Student Health building to provide more coordinated access to services for students.
37 Mandatory online education for all new students was piloted this year with incoming first-year
38 students and will be required for all students (undergraduate and graduate) as of next fall. These
39 changes, along with others, were described in an August 27th memo to all faculty.
40

41 ***Security Issues:***

42 a) Following the death of Viterbi graduate student Xinran Ji, Vice-Provost Carry met with Chinese
43 students, the Chinese community, and worked with LAPD to solve the crime as quickly as possible.
44 Several changes to security policy have also ensued. CSC Security (the “yellow jacket” contract
45 security) will be onsite throughout the summer, rather than simply during the academic year, along

46 with more cameras and DPS officers on foot and bike. Campus cruisers will also be extended over
47 the summer, to provide transport up to 2:45 am, as during the academic year.

48
49 b) Student Affairs is also working with other parts of the university to administer the Emergency
50 Student Aid Fund. They have found that grad students in particular may not want to give up a laptop
51 because they have research they've spent years on. Graduate students need to know 1) the university
52 can help replace stolen items and 2) they are encouraged to back-up all of their research to cloud-
53 based storage so that holding onto a laptop does not cost them their life. Student Affairs is working
54 with ITS and academic advisors in each school to provide culturally competent training about safety
55 at USC for international students in particular.

56
57 c) DPS has also developed the "Live Safe" app, which allows a student to press an icon that forwards
58 their GPS location to DPS, which doesn't require dialing or talking (it operates kind of like a panic
59 button). More cameras are also being considered; while they help in solving crimes already
60 committed they aren't as effective in prevention. DPS is thinking about adding analytics to camera
61 system to develop predictive formulas. However such systems are not fool-proof so this is not a
62 perfect solution.

63
64 **Nominating Committee Discussion**
65 No nominations were offered from the floor; a slate of Jeff Chisum, Els Collins, Suzanne Palmer, and
66 Alison Trope to join Executive Board members John Silvester, Ginger Clark, Kevin Murphy, Oliver
67 Mayer as the proposed Nominating Committee

68
69 Floor vote – 20 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions – nominating committee elected

70 71 **Faculty Council Updates**

72 **Presentation from Viterbi School of Engineering Faculty Council, by Paul Rosenbloom**

73 Paul Rosenbloom discussed the recent changes in the by-laws to the faculty council, which
74 was a response to the challenges in representing all of the full-time faculty in Viterbi. They
75 now have a proportional representation system, which has dramatically transformed the
76 composition of the faculty council. There are now 13 TT / 11 NTT faculty, who will
77 typically be elected for two years but in light of the new by-laws new elections were held
78 with half of the seats up for election to a 2 year term and half of the seats up for election to a
79 1 year-term to return to staggered elections. Self-organized into 3 committees, with option for
80 ad-hoc committees on an as-needed basis. Meet monthly and the idea is that the committees
81 do all of the work of the council – monthly meetings are for reports, meetings with deans,
82 and committee motions based on decisions that need to be made. Viterbi is also very proud of
83 its 38% female student population, which is more than double the national average (18%).

84 **Presentation from USC School of Pharmacy Faculty Council, by Daryl Davies**

85 The dean is stepping down and a national search is progressing for his replacement, with the
86 goal of having that person in place by July 2015. One of the challenges facing the Pharmacy
87 School is the trend of new schools coming online. They can't be prevented from opening of
88 course but want to make sure USC's school is offering the right curriculum and has the right
89 resources available to provide an attractive spot for students to recognize new opportunities,
90 particularly 1st and 2nd generation students, particularly in the area of polypharmacy (drug

91 interactions, number of pills for various ailments), given the fact that we have an aging
92 population. We need to be providing those training so that we can make sure the students we
93 are training and the providers we're graduating are trained for the future. See opportunities in
94 the business of medicine. Pharmacists have been legally able to provide, particularly
95 regarding for chronic care issues.

96 Every faculty member is a member of the council – the executive board is 8 members. A
97 PowerPoint was distributed by Connie with the meeting materials – additional background is
98 provided if desired.

99 **Acceptance of reports produced for the 2013-2014 Academic Senate**

100 in order to provide closure and feedback to the various task forces and committees who invested a
101 great deal of time in preparation of reports, the Senate formally accepted the reports and empowered
102 the president to formally reply on behalf of the Senate to each task force and committee that
103 submitted a report.

104 Ginger moved, Oliver seconded; Approved 19, Opposed 0, Abstentions 0

105

106 **Presentation by Mike Nichol and Stephanie Honda**, standing in for Lisa Macchia, who could not
107 attend due to sig alert traffic and another commitment, to review the USC Health Plans and give a
108 preview of the agenda for the Benefits Advisory Committee 2014-2015

109

110 Overall the growth of USC medical premiums on average increases 4% each year, less than
111 industry standard of 10% on average each year. Stephanie also presented a summary of the
112 most recent analysis of USC in comparison to peer institutions – premium increases
113 substantially below; USC kicks in on 77% of premium.

114

115 The Benefits Advisory Committee will make the slides available to the members of the
116 Senate. The Benefits Advisory Committee will also monitor the new taxes due to the ACA
117 that USC will have to pay that will cut into the pool of funds used to subsidize the insurance
118 coverage. Should people move to Covered California – USC has to prove that we have been
119 offered it or suffer a multi-million dollar tax penalty.

120

121 John Silvester suggested that the committee look at a comparative analysis of the fertility
122 coverage after Lynn Miller informed us that Stanford, one of the peer institutions, covers
123 fertility treatments for female faculty, while USC's does not.

124

125

126 The proposed mini-retreat on sustainability schedule for November 7th has been replaced by a 2-hour
127 planning meeting. Depending on the outcome of that meeting there may be a longer event in the
128 Spring. Venue still to be determined. Please let John know if you would like to be involved – or if
129 there are colleagues you know who need to get an invitation.

130

131 The second mini-retreat is to be around best practices in teaching evaluation including discussion on
132 the role of student evaluations. Previously the Senate produced a white paper that led to a memo
133 from the provost directing schools to use alternatives to teaching evaluations as a primary form of
134 evidence of teaching effectiveness.

135
136 All Senate members are encouraged to read the *Chronicle of Higher Education* article distributed by
137 Connie as well as an article referred by Lynn Miller that says the way we go about such evaluations
138 are in fact a negative incentive for student behavior.

139
140 The plan is to put together a Task Force to look at some of these issues for a spring Mini-Retreat.
141 John Silvester indicated that he has spoken with Michael Quick and this topic and there is support
142 from the Provost's office to work together on this initiative

143
144 **Announcements:**

145 The next Senate meeting will be November 19, 2014 (University Club, 2nd Floor)
146 Beth Meyerowitz will attend the next Senate meeting with Provost Garrett

147
148 Save the Date: the Senate-Provost retreat will be held on Saturday January 31 at the Ritz-Carlton, LA
149 Live.

150

151 Respectfully submitted,

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153

154 Ange-Marie Hancock, Ph.D.
155 Secretary General of the Academic Senate

156

157 Els Collins
158 School of Dramatic Arts
159 Co-Chair, Committee on Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Affairs