ACADEMIC SENATE
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Meeting of April 15, 2015
University Club, 2nd Floor, Scriptorium Room: 2:00 - 4:00 pm


CALL TO ORDER – 2:08 pm

Dialogue with Provost Michael Quick, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Senate congratulated Provost Quick on his recent appointment as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. Provost Quick briefly shared his vision for the university in this first meeting with the full Senate as provost. Provost Quick believes that with great privilege comes great responsibility; USC can be the top private research university that works for the public good. Given that his appointment commenced on April 1, he will take the next few months to meet with various groups of faculty and to determine his priorities for the first 1-2 years of his time as provost.

Provost Quick then discussed three additional items briefly:

- He will be seeking greater faculty input around university operations (enrollment management, etc.) through the proposal of a new joint committee.
- The recent report submitted by the Vitterbi Faculty Council regarding changes to the Stevens Center for Innovation, which Provost Quick is taking under advisement.
- The upcoming proposal to have university-wide NTT policies and the recent unionization protest that took place today. Provost Quick again solicits ideas for how we can best provide NTT faculty with the resources they need.

Approval of the February 18 Senate meeting draft minutes and Request for Comments on Notes from March meeting (there having been no quorum)

Ange-Marie Hancock, Secretary General, presented the minutes for comment or revision – none offered. Els Collins moved approval; Rebecca Lonergan second; unanimous approval.

Academic Senate Nominating Committee & Introduction of Candidates

Kevin Murphy kindly agreed to step in for Ginger Clark, who had a last-minute family commitment and could not attend the meeting, to present the candidates. The election packet will be sent via email and will include written information about all of the candidates.
Report from the Academic Senate Faculty Handbook Committee

Sandeep Gupta, Chair, Academic Senate Faculty Handbook Committee presented and took questions regarding proposed changes to Chapter 6 (second reading) and presented proposed changes to all chapters except Chapter 6 (first reading).

Second reading and comments - Proposed changes to Chapter 6

Motion made by the Faculty Handbook Committee (#14/15-03) to approve the changes made by the Faculty Handbook motion passed 25 approved; 0 opposed; 1 abstention

First reading and comments - Proposed changes to all Handbook chapters except Chapter 6

The proposed changes to all chapters except Chapter 6 will face their second reading and a possible motion at the May meeting.

Report from the Committee on Teaching and Academic Programs

Andrew Lakoff, Chair, Committee on Teaching and Academic Programs, presented a brief report regarding the committee’s activities. This year the committee focused on a charge from the Provost to provide recommendations regarding residential education. With the upcoming re-launch of University Village (and the significant expansion of the residential spaces for students), there is a need for a new vision of how faculty and teaching are integrated into residential colleges. Currently we have a nascent residential college system that hasn’t yet been systematized; is a very heterogeneous system of faculty in residence and how faculty engage with students. The thought is we can improve how this system functions and that includes programming, whether courses like GE seminars should be included in the residential colleges to intensify the academic experiences for undergraduates over their first one or two years on campus. The Senate packet for this meeting provides five recommendations and what would need to change in order to achieve these recommendations. In the middle of these Committee deliberations, the Provost created a university-wide committee to look at these issues. These recommendations will fall on the desk of the new committee, of which Lakoff is also co-chair (with Robin Romans in the Provost’s office).

The intention is to think of these as not simply geographical locations of residential colleges but to think of how thematic rubrics like those already in existence (e.g., Arts and Humanities, International, Civic Engagement) might be integrated in a way that would involve both resident and non-residential faculty who would host meals, feature speakers, and teach classes as part of the thematic rubrics.

One thing worth the Senate’s reflection that keeps coming up is the roles and responsibilities of the Faculty Masters – this is something mentioned by several residential faculty. There appears to be a need to clarify the governance structure and what the roles and responsibilities are of these faculty masters. Silvester asked any Senate members with questions and/or feedback to reply directly to Lakoff following the meeting.

Faculty Council Update from USC Libraries Faculty Council

Sherry Mosley, Chair of the USC Libraries Faculty Council reported on the activities and concerns of the council. The council meets twice a week and is working hard to address the communications challenges with the Dean and the Provost’s office regarding the recent review of the division. They have also lost
facilities in Leavey. Currently they are focused on the Libraries’ Strategic Plan, and the Council is assembling their recommendations following a retreat that featured high participation.

**Motion in support of recommendations made by the Committee on NTT Faculty Affairs (#14/15-04).**

Passed unanimously. The recommendations were presented and discussed during the March meeting at HSC.

**Nominations to University-Wide Committees**

Nomination forms will be going out to three channels – to faculty, deans, and to the Senate. Please encourage colleagues (TT & NTT) to step up and participate, and to fully consider encouraging a diverse group of colleagues to step up.

**Update from the Subcommittee on Sustainability**

Jeremy Kagan, member of the Subcommittee on Sustainability, presented an update that included a request that Senate members and their colleagues spread the word and sign onto a student’s initiative: [https://wecandomoreusc.wordpress.com/](https://wecandomoreusc.wordpress.com/). The full report has been distributed as part of the Senate packet and will be discussed at the next meeting (May 13, 2015).

**Announcements**

a) All Senate members, past presidents and spouses are invited to the ‘End of the Year’ dinner held on May 6 from 5:30 to 8:30pm (cocktails from 5:30 to 6:30pm) at the USC Pacific Asia Museum. Please RSVP by April 24th to Connie Roque at croque@usc.edu or 213-740-7169. There will be a tour of the museum at 5:00 p.m.

b) The Senate Annual Planning Retreat will be held on August 18, 2015 at the California African American Museum.

10. New Business

**ADJOURNMENT**

Respectfully submitted,

Ange-Marie Hancock, Ph.D.

Secretary General of the Academic Senate