

1 Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
2 University Club Scriptorium Room
3 January 21, 2015
4

5 **Present:** P. Cannon, L. Carver, J. Chisum, G. Clark, E. Collins, A. Crigler, S. Curran, R. Davila, A. Dowd,
6 M. Eshaghian (alternate for M. Gunderson), C. Gomer, H. Greenwald, A. Hancock, E. Johnson, J. Kagan,
7 J. Kopcsak, R. Labaree (alternate for M. Vicedo), R. Lonergan, M. Madden, O. Mayer, E. McCann
8 (alternate for W. Ziebis), J. McLaughlin- Gray (alternate for A. Neville-Jan), L. Miller (alternate for R.
9 Weintraub), K. Murphy, B. Phillips (alternate for L. Palinkas), B. Rathbun, P. Rosenbloom, D. Ruddell, J.
10 Silvester, R. Smith, I. Steinberg, E. Webb

11 **Absent:** J. Barnett, D. Oakes, A. Ouellette, S. Palmer, R. Paulson, W. Petak, C. Russell, J. Steele, C.
12 Wang, M. Weinstein, R. Weisberg,

13 **Guests:** F. Chang, S. Golomb, M. Levine, M. Quick, W. Regensburger

- 14
15 1. Call To Order - John Silvester, Academic Senate President
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17 2. Moments of Silence and Comments by Professor Sol Golomb, Marty Levine, Ann Crigler,
18 Irving Steinberg, Robert Labaree for the late Professor Walter Wolf. There will also be a
19 memorial for any faculty who wish to attend at 4 pm on Thursday, February 5, 2015 at the
20 School of Pharmacy (Room 112 of the Pharmaceutical Sciences Center)
21
22 3. Resolution 14/15 - 001: Establishing the Walter Wolf Award – Chuck Gomer presented a
23 resolution to create a faculty advocacy award in Walter Wolf’s name, which would honor his
24 role in protecting academic freedom and issues of social conscience, and would be open to
25 faculty who have contributed to USC in this vein through their own faculty service, teaching,
26 scholarship or role as a public intellectual. The resolution has been signed by all of the
27 former Senate presidents and was unanimously approved by the Executive Board to be
28 referred to the full Senate for approval.
29

30 Charles Gomer moved; Ann Crigler seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
31

- 32 4. Dialogue with the Interim Provost Michael Quick, Interim Provost
33 Interim Provost Quick announced two notable hires: new Gould School of Law Dean
34 Andrew Guzman, who is currently a faculty member at UC Berkeley Boalt School of Law
35 and will join USC in July; and James Heckman, a Nobel-Prize winning economist from the
36 University of Chicago, who will be joining the Schaeffer Center for Health Economics. The
37 search for a new Dean of the School of Pharmacy is ongoing.
38

39 Provost Quick also provided updates regarding the role of the University Committee on
40 Academic Review (UCAR). The process of UCAR III will begin very soon – it will be about a
41 10 year process to review all terminal degrees – of the 80-90 total programs we have, the
42 university conducts 8-9 graduate program reviews annually. Because UCAR III is just about
43 to begin, please take these updates back to your councils to get some feedback and either
44 send that feedback directly to Provost Quick or if necessary the Senate will put it back on
45 the agenda.
46

- 47 5. December 10, 2014 Meeting Minutes - Ange-Marie Hancock, Secretary General

48 Ginger Clark Moved for approval; Alicia Dowd seconded. Vote: 25 approved; 0 opposed; 5
49 abstentions
50

51 6. Report and Discussion Regarding the 'LiveSafe' App by William Regensburger, Director,
52 Fire Safety & Emergency Planning

53 The recent events on and off campus that affect our students have produced numerous
54 changes on campus and the surrounding area, including increased security cameras and
55 staff; a community safety campaign with residents and neighbors; and the LiveSafe App,
56 which was released in November. Director Regensburger shared the LiveSafe App, which
57 has so far gotten ~5,000 downloads (including students along with some parents and
58 faculty/staff). The administration is aiming for 20-25,000 students to download the app over
59 the first two years. The LiveSafe app becomes your personal "blue light" emergency phone
60 by allowing users to Call DPS, 911, or to text message DPS. You can download it via the
61 AppStore or Google Play; be sure to select University of Southern California. Both Director
62 Regensburger and Chief John Thomas are asking faculty to spread the word among the
63 students and to download it themselves.
64

65 7. Faculty Council Updates (3:05 - 3:15)

66 Eric Webb, Chair, Dornsife College Faculty Council

67 Dornsife has 8400 undergraduate students; 1800 graduate students. 454 TT faculty 392
68 NTT (of which 142 are part-time). Wide variety of disciplines and the concerns are similarly
69 varied. Dornsife Faculty Council terms are typically 2 years and the council is elected. The
70 council meets with Dean Kay once per semester, the questions the council provides to
71 Dean Kay in these sessions come from a wide variety of the disciplines and the concerns
72 are similarly varied. There is also an oversight committee that includes the President, Vice
73 President and Secretary. One recent victory has been to work with the Dean to upgrade
74 faculty lab facilities
75

76 Last year the Council spent a lot of time on the size of the council due to the discovery of
77 NTT faculty underrepresentation. The council was trimmed to 12 TT (4 Humanities, 4
78 Sciences, and 4 Social Sciences) along with 4 NTT faculty from any discipline.
79

80 Dornsife Faculty Council Goals for 2014-2015:

- 81 • Enriching Dornsife Faculty – setting salary aside, the emphasis is on identifying small
82 investments that could make a big difference in faculty performance, productivity &
83 morale – the trick is making things implementable without increasing bureaucracy (e.g.
84 streamlining the travel grant process). Safety on Campus – they are in the process of
85 organizing a couple of information sessions similar to the one that occurred during the
86 Senate Planning Retreat specifically for Dornsife faculty
- 87 • Graduate Programs and Funding – this is a part of the landscape that is changing
88 rapidly and the Council is seeking to give advice to Dean Kay about this topic.
- 89 • NTT issues – Dornsife has significant numbers of all kinds of NTT faculty and thus their
90 needs are as wide and varied as that might suggest.
91

92 8. Discussion regarding the Academic Calendars by Frank Chang, Associate Registrar,
93 Associate Registrar Chang shared two recent proposals to the Calendar Committee: one to
94 celebrate/commemorate Cesar Chavez Day in the Spring (proposed by a USC faculty
95 member) and one from the Undergraduate Student Government (USG) to create a fall
96 break by taking two days off (Monday and Tuesday) during week 7 and instead have class
97 on what are currently the first two study days at the end of the semester, which would

98 extend the end of the exam period by two days, as the students want to keep 4 study days
99 at the end of the term. The Senate offered feedback on both proposals.

100

101 9. Update regarding the joint Provost/Senate Retreat – RSVP’s are needed by Monday if you
102 plan to attend and haven’t yet responded.

103

104 10. New Business: In between the time of adjournment and the scheduled holiday dinner, VP
105 Ginger Clark is happy to discuss the topic for the next mini-retreat, scheduled for March 6th,
106 which will focus on recent events in Ferguson, MO; Colorado; Staten Island, NY; the
107 Charlie Hebdo tragedy in Paris, etc. If you are interested, please speak with Ginger this
108 afternoon or send a note of interest to Ginger or John

109

110 **ADJOURNMENT**

111

112 Respectfully submitted,

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115 Ange-Marie Hancock, Ph.D.

116 Secretary General of the Academic Senate

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