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2 **ACADEMIC SENATE**
3

4 **UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

5 Meeting of October 18, 2017

6 University Club, 2nd Floor, Scriptorium Room

7 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.
8

9 **Present:** S.A. Altman, M. Apostolos, S. Asgharzadeh, Y. Bar-Cohen, D. Brooks, R. Broyer, S. Bucher,
10 P. Cannon, L. Castaneda, P. Chang, D. Crombecque, S. Curran, A. Dashiell-Sparks, R. Davila, S. Dincer,
11 E. Fife, S. Gruskin, L. Hoffman, N. Hollyn, E. Horowitz, R. Jubran, A. Justice, J. Kagan, R. Labaree, M. Lee,
12 L. Lewis (alternate for G. Painter), S. Little, E. Pacifici, S. Palmer, J. Parr, D. Pecchenino, G. Polidori,
13 G. Ragusa, R. Randhawa, C. Resnik, P. Rosenbloom, D. Ruddell, H. Seli (alternate for M. Polikoff),
14 K. Servis, S. Shroyer, R. Smith, J. Son, J. Steele, N. Stoubis, T. Tambascia, T. Tucker, A. Uyeshiro,
15 D. Vanderbilt, V. Webb, A. G. Wilcox, E. Wojciak

16 **Absent:** S. Daneshmand, M. Frey, S.M. Gibson, A. Goldkorn, L. Grazzette, A. Idini, J. Israel, J. Sapkin,
17 M. Polikoff, G. Zada

18 **Guests:** G. Clark, M. Levine, M. Quick, C. Zachary
19

20 **AGENDA**
21

22 Paul Rosenbloom, Academic Senate President, called the meeting to order at 2:03 pm and
23 introduced the guests of the Senate.
24

25 **Approval of September Senate meeting draft minutes**

26 Mike Lee, Secretary General, presented September draft minutes for discussion and approval.
27

28 *Rima Jubran moved to approve; Ramandeep Randhawa seconded; 31 in favor; 0 opposed; 0*
29 *abstentions.*
30

31 **Nominating Committee election (4 Senators)**

32 2017/2018 Nominating Committee consists of four members from the Executive Board and four
33 members elected by the Academic Senate.
34

35 Nominees for the four additional members were presented:

- 36 • Sean Curran, Senate Representative from School of Gerontology
 - 37 • Anita Dashiell-Sparks, Alternate Senate Representative from School of Dramatic Arts
 - 38 • Rima Jubran, Senate Representative from Keck School
 - 39 • Sharoni Little, Senate Representative from Marshall
 - 40 • James Steele, Senate Representative from School of Architecture
 - 41 • Trisha Tucker, Senate Representative from Dornsife
- 42

43 Secret ballot election was held and four committee members were selected.
44

45 2017-2018 Nominating Committee Members are:

- 46 • From the Executive Board
 - 47 ○ Paul Rosenbloom, President of the Faculty, Viterbi
 - 48 ○ Yaniv Bar-Cohen (Chair), Academic Vice President, Keck/CHLA
 - 49 ○ Paula Cannon, Immediate Past President, Keck

- 50 ○ Ruben Davila, Administrative Vice President, Marshall and Leventhal
- 51 ● From the vote of the Senate (presented at the end of the meeting)
- 52 ○ *Sean Curran, Senate Representative from School of Gerontology*
- 53 ○ *Anita Dashiell-Sparks, Senate Representative from School of Dramatic Arts*
- 54 ○ *Sharoni Little, Senate Representative from Marshall*
- 55 ○ *Trisha Tucker, Senate Representative from Dornsife*

56

57 **Discuss situation in Keck and university's response**

58 Paul Rosenbloom facilitated the discussion on the situation at Keck, the university's response and
59 provided an update on the Task Force on Workplace Standards and Employee Wellness.

60

61 "Task Force has also been continuing with its work, having just completed a month of subgroup
62 meetings on Wellness and Organizational Culture. The former concerns the tools and
63 environment needed to help our faculty and staff be well on a daily basis and to overcome those
64 personal challenges that still do arise. The latter concerns the type of organization and
65 community to which, in partnership with the students and patients we serve, we all aspire to
66 belong. Our ultimate goal is to provide both an aspirational view and a path towards it for the
67 future of USC as a model 21st Century University."

68

69 "The subgroup on Wellness has explored the community's "awareness" in terms of appreciation
70 for, and understanding of, the philosophy promoting the proactive pursuit of a healthy body,
71 mind, and spirit. The group has also identified the need to expand knowledge of, and streamline
72 accessibility to, a menu of available USC resources. It is clear that individuals, supervisors, and the
73 university must increase support to associated efforts and training. The ability to self-help,
74 provide help when concerned for others, and report crises must also be improved. Lastly,
75 discussions have validated that Wellness for the USC community can only exist inside a healthy
76 organization infused with fairness, equity, transparency, respect, and integrity."

77

78 "The subgroup on Organizational Culture has explored what kind of an environment we want to
79 work towards overall at USC – both in terms of healthy traits to be encouraged and problematic
80 ones to be reduced – and what this implies in terms of expectations for our leaders, our
81 community of faculty and staff, and our institutional processes. The group also has explored what
82 modifications to our current practices could enable meeting these expectations. As with the
83 subgroup on Wellness, a big part of this has focused on what the process should be for handling
84 concerns about self and others, but it also has focused on how to work towards a new culture and
85 leadership model."

86

87 "Over the next few months we will meld the results from the two subgroups, develop an initial set
88 of tentative recommendations, and consult broadly before reporting out a first set of official
89 recommendations."

90

91 **Dialogue with USC's Provost, Michael Quick**

92 Michael Quick, USC Provost, provided updates on the university.

93

94 Michael has been holding informal conversations with faculty to discuss current topics of interest
95 and to introduce the new strategic plan for the university. He has held about 5-6 of them with
96 about 30 faculty attending each session.

97

98 Center of Excellence in Teaching has been moving forward on a number of fronts around 3 areas:

99 1) train 2) measure and 3) reward. The new course evaluation is an example of this work.

100

101 Online Teaching

102 Michael wants to do a deep dive into online teaching for graduate students. 10% of our tuition
103 revenue is from our graduate online programs. He wants to review of all the basic questions you
104 would have about online programs, including:

105

- 106 • Are students getting jobs?
- 107 • What does the debt load look like?
- 108 • Can students manage the debt load after they leave the university after they graduate?
- 109 • How do faculty feel about the online programs?

110

111 For undergraduate students, we believe in residential experiences and do not use online teaching.

112

113 Threat and Campus Safety

114 Active shooter threat at Fertitta Hall was a false alarm. For about 20 minutes, we thought the
115 situation was real. Within 2 minutes, we had DPS in the building to find out what was going on.
116 Within 4 minutes, multiple SWAT teams were deployed. The positives were that we learned a lot
117 about what we did wrong and what did right in preparation and response.

118

119 What did not work well: We set up our command center at Exposition and Figueroa, which was
120 too close to the active shooter situation. We learned that a number of faculty have rules that says
121 no computers and cell phones must be off, so some faculty and students were initially unaware of
122 the situation.

123

124 What we know: Students have been trained on active shooter. Our students were incredibly good
125 during active shooter. We need to do better training for faculty.

126

127 Outside of USC, there was a lot of misinformation. 4 hours after we communicated that the active
128 shooter was a false alarm, external sources were still communicating that there was an active
129 shooter situation.

130

131 Leadership Issues

132 Michael provided his thoughts on the recent leadership issues at Keck and stated that we need to
133 work on showing that we hold leadership to a higher standard. Feedback was provided to Michael
134 on the school's response so far.

135

136 **Continue discussion of situation in Keck and university's response**

137 Paul Rosenbloom continued the discussion on the situation at Keck and the university's response.
138 Members of the USC administration were asked to leave for this portion of the meeting.

139

140 **Revising the Student Course Evaluation**

141 Ginger Clark, Assistant Vice Provost of Academic & Faculty Affairs and Director of Center for
142 Excellence in Teaching, provided an overview of the new student course evaluations that will go in
143 effect for Spring 2018.

144

145 "Over the last four years, three faculty committees (2013 Academic Senate Task Force on
146 Teaching Evaluations, 2016 Provost's Task Force on Teaching Effectiveness, and 2016-2017
147 Provost/Senate Committee on Teaching and Academic Programs) made recommendations for

148 changing how teaching is supported, evaluated, and rewarded at USC.”

149

150 “We have identified five constructs of student learning experience to be measured: 1) Course
151 design, 2) Instructional practices, 3) Inclusive design and practices, 4) Assessment practices, and 5)
152 Course impact. Open-ended questions as well as items assessing students’ investment in their
153 own learning will be included to give more robust and contextualized information.”

154

155 Diversity/inclusion questions are embedded within other sections to minimize response bias. If
156 you put all items on diversity together, respondents typically try to game the system. The
157 measurements will not include an option for a neutral response.

158

159 “These items apply to the university-wide student evaluation form; however, schools will continue
160 to have the option to include additional customized items on their forms. The timeline is detailed
161 below, but full implementation of the measure will begin Spring 2018.”

162

163 Faculty council’s feedback is requested by Nov 1. Pilots are planned for mid-November and mid-
164 Spring semester.

165

166 **Information Risk**

167 Presentation on information risk/security by Gus Anagnos, USC Chief Information Security Officer,
168 was postponed to a later Senate meeting due to a lack of time.

169

170 **Announcements**

171 Paul Rosenbloom, Academic Senate President

172 (a) Call of Nominations: 2018 USC Faculty Lifetime Achievement Award; Deadline for
173 Nominations: November 13, 2017 at 5:00pm; See Academic Senate Facebook Page:

174 <https://www.facebook.com/pg/academicssenate/posts/>

175 (b) January 17 meeting will be held at HSC

176 (c) Remaining Academic Senate meetings in University Club 2nd floor Scriptorium

177 (d) Please hold February 23-24, 2018 for the Joint Provost/Senate Retreat.

178 Venue: The Westin Bonaventure Hotel & Suites, DTLA; Topic TBD.

179 (e) The Senate meeting schedule and venues for 2017 - 2018 is posted on the Senate website:

180 <https://academicssenate.usc.edu/>

181 (f) The roster of Senate members and committee chairs is posted on this link:

182 <https://academicssenate.usc.edu/senators/senators/>

183

184 **New Business**

185 None stated.

186

187 **Adjournment**

188 Meeting was adjourned at 3:55 pm.

189

190 Respectfully submitted,

191

192 

193

194 Mike S. Lee

195 Secretary General of the Academic Senate