ACADEMIC SENATE

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Meeting of February 15, 2023
Hybrid Meeting
2:00 - 4:00 pm PST

Present (Senate Members): S. Altman, M. Apostolos, J. Armour, D. Armstrong, C. Barrio, D. Cole, D. Becker, L. Bernsten, M. Bodie, K. Carlson, M. Chatterjee,   J. Dopheide (alternate for T. Church), S. Dughmi, S. Faris, A. Foster, S. Hsu, K. Imagawa, H. Jaddoud, N. Jia, C. Jones, S. Kim, T. Kirkland, R. Labaree, J. Lantz, L. Lewis, F. Liley, W. Mack, T. Mayfield, S. Schepens Niemiec, C. Neuman, S. Nye, L. Olvera, R. Pacula, T. Patel, D. Pecchenino, S. Rao, C. Resnik, A. Rutkowski, B. Salhia, A. Sanchez, A. Siegel, C. Smith, C. Soto, T. Tambascia, A. Tzoytozyrakos, A. Uyeshiro, E. Warford, K. Wilber, C. Young, A. Imre

Absent: N. Ashe-McNalley, D. Beltran, D. Brooks, R. Cislowski, J. Clements, S. Fereshteh, L. Perin Gallandt, d.S Grimes, E. Grossman, S. Gruskin, L. Hoffman, S. Iqbal, R. Jubran, J. Matsusaka, P.T. McNiff, M. Nadim, J. Nyquist, C. Pantano-Rubino, A. Parra, J. Pynoos, O. Trujillo, A. Van Speybroeck, J. Walker

Guests (Senate Members alternates & invited guests): P. Cannon, A. Das, J. Dinalo, E. Fife, E. Graddy, E. Johnson, E. Jonckheere, H. Kaslow, G. Kung, R. Lemarchand, M. Levine, E. Liman, J. Moore, M. Papa, G. Ragusa, K. Savla, S. Shapiro, S. Shroyer, N. Warren, R. Wood, S. Zweig

AGENDA

Call to Order

Academic Senate President Pecchenino called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

Approval of Minutes

Secretary Young presented the January Academic Senate meeting minutes for approval.

Motion to approve January minutes. Seconded and passed. 29 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstentions.

Update from Faculty Handbook Committee

Co-Chair Ruth Wood presented on the work of the Faculty Handbook Committee. The goal of this year's committee is to revise Chapter 6: "Providing a Safe, Professional, and Educational Work Environment" which addresses faculty professionalism, conduct, policies and procedures around investigations and sanctions. The committee's goal is to make Chapter 6 less confusing and more helpful to faculty accused of misconduct. They have identified three issues with the current process of investigation and sanctions from potential misconduct: a lack of faculty involvement in the initial evaluation of complaints, not every potential misconduct needing to be investigated by OCAP, and the need to better define what constitutes misconduct.

President Pecchenino asked about the process changes and timeline. Senator Wood shared that Vice Provost and Senior Advisor Marty Levine has been instrumental in trying to take these preliminary drafts and bring them to the relevant administrative offices to ensure that the directions align with other parts of the administration.

46 **Discussion with Interim Provost Elizabeth Graddy and Senior Vice President for Health Affairs**
47 **Steve Shapiro**

48 Provost Graddy and Senior Vice President Shapiro spoke about the relationship between their
49 offices and operations of the Health Sciences schools. SVP Shapiro shared that the future is team-
50 based care that starts with interdisciplinary education. He stated that the key to success for all the
51 schools is that the Provost and he work closely together. Provost Graddy and SVP Shapiro
52 answered questions about the new administrative structure. The unification of the School of
53 Medicine and the health system has made the organization more efficient, stronger, and able to
54 support all of its missions effectively.

55 Provost Graddy added that the tenure and clinical scholar appointment and promotion processes
56 have not changed. This process is still handled by the Provost and the usual UCAPT
57 process. Provost Graddy emphasized that the day-to-day operations for most of the health
58 schools has not changed, but relies on the same university infrastructure. They are currently
59 working on the budget process to figure out the needs of all the schools and try to support them
60 jointly.

61 **Rankings Data Management Discussion**

62 Senior Vice President and General Counsel Beong-Soo Kim and Vice Provost for Academic
63 Operations Mark Todd spoke about school rankings data management. GC Kim provided a brief
64 background surrounding the events that previously occurred in the Rossier School of Education.
65 The discussion focused on the procedures put in place to make sure that the appropriate
66 individuals attest to the data being provided, and that the process is coordinated centrally. There
67 was a broader discussion regarding the usefulness of these rankings, and that in some cases, even
68 if a school does not provide data, the ranking organization pulls their own data from public and
69 other sources.

70 **Committee on Information Services (CIS) Update**
71 Co-Chair Clifford Neuman presented on the committee's work for the year. The committee
72 provided faculty input to the CIO, CISO, and Information Services. One of the major issues around
73 which this input has been provided include USC's Security "Call to Action", the university-wide
74 security initiative aimed at implementing short-term risk reduction activities to better prepare for
75 attacks.
76
77 The learning management sub-committee has met with individuals from BrightSpace (created by
78 vendor, D2L) to understand the capabilities and the kind of support needed to assist faculty in
79 making the transition and best utilization of D2L.
80
81 The academic integrity subcommittee is developing a survey to the faculty to better understand
82 experience with the use of technology by students that results in academic dishonesty, and views
83 toward technology (how it has been used, or other views) intended to mitigate academic integrity
84 issues. The subcommittee is also preparing a report cataloging available tools and highlighting
85 their effectiveness and ethical and/or equity and privacy issues that arise from their use.
86
87 The CIS committee has been discussing issues surrounding generative AI (e.g. Chat-GPT). This has
88 resulted in an interim advisory report which was issued, and the committee will further address
89 these issues in their final report, expected in April or May.
90
91 **Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Committee Update**
92 Co-chairs Ashley Uyeshiro Simon and Aniko Imre the Faculty Rights & Responsibilities presented
93 about their committee's work. The committee has undergone a number of changes and played a
94 crucial role in recent years. The committee is available for faculty to turn to with any grievances or

95   issues, including policy violations, contract promotions, employment disputes, and conflicts with
96   colleagues. The co-chairs can provide consultation, problem-solving, and informal mediation, and
97   can point faculty in the right direction for other resources if needed. The consultations are
98   confidential. The committee has grown larger, with representatives from most parts of the
99   university, providing a broad array of experience to pull upon when addressing issues. Faculty can
100   contact the committee through a form on the Senate website or by reaching out to any of the
101   three co-chairs.
102
103   **Update about March Senate meeting and Office Manager search**
104   President Pecchenino shared that interviews for the new Academic Senate Office Manager have
105   been completed and a selection will be made soon. The date of the March meeting will be moved
106   to March 22nd, the week after Spring Break.
107
108   **Adjournment**
109   President Pecchenino adjourned the meeting at 3:59 pm.
110
111   Respectfully submitted,

112

113   Christal Young
114   Secretary General of the Academic Senate