

Faculty Assembly (FA) Minutes of the Meeting
April 5, 2017
1:20pm – 2:00pm
Pavilion Rooms 2 & 3
Number of Faculty Attendees: (approximately) 105

1. Motion to Delay FA Meeting.

- a. A motion was made to extend the Faculty Forum and delay the scheduled Faculty Assembly meeting. The motion was approved.
- b. The Faculty Forum ended at 1:20pm, at which time the Faculty Assembly meeting began.

2. Announcement by Karlito Almeda and Andres Castillo

- a. Students Karlito Almeda and Andres Castillo announced their concerns about the effects of College restructuring and the College's leadership. They are seeking a mechanism that will allow students to provide input into any restructuring discussions (e.g., a liaison). They also would like to see more transparency overall.
 - i. Perhaps the Provost should hold a town hall with students to discuss the restructuring initiative.
- b. Karlito Almeda announced that a symbolic "death march" will be held on campus next Wednesday at 12pm to protest proposed federal cuts to higher education.

3. Voting Item 1: FA/FAEC Secretary (September 2017 through June 2019)

- a. The FA received one nomination for FA/FAEC secretary—Hugh Sheehy (SSHGS).
- b. Prof. Sheehy gave a brief presentation explaining his interest in the position.
- c. The vote was conducted by electronic device.
 - i. Total votes—105.
 - ii. Yes – 98%
 - iii. No – 0%
 - iv. Abstain – 2%
- d. Prof. Sheehy has been elected FA/FAEC Secretary (to begin September, 2017).

4. Discussion on College Restructuring

- a. Many faculty members are concerned with the Provost's restructuring plans and task force. Specifically:
 - i. The proposed timetable (TF recommendation by 10/31/2017 and implementation by Fall 2018) appears to be unrealistic and unworkable.
 1. Even if the Provost announced a plan minutes after receiving the TF recommendations, there would not be enough time

for new Schools to create new School Cores, for Convening Groups to adjust their major requirements to fit new School Cores, for GenEd to adapt to new School Cores, or to search for appropriate Deans for the new Schools.

2. Fall 2018 implementation of a new College structure coincides with the launch of the new GenEd as well as the beginning of the Middle States cycle.
 3. Provost has not communicated why the restructuring of the School (Academic Units) is of such urgency.
 4. But it appears to be of such urgency to the Provost that she seems to have authorized 10 course releases (at a cost of over \$50,000) and likely summertime work for TF members to meet the 10/31/2017 deadline for their recommendations.
- ii. The Provost has not communicated a clear rationale or need for restructuring.
 - iii. The task force, as proposed, lacks adequate representativeness.
 1. In her 3/29/2016 email to all faculty, the Provost explicitly wrote, “These [TF] members are not acting as representatives but instead are individuals...”
 2. Formally, this means that faculty have no voice “as a faculty” in the restructuring determination and process.
- b. College restructuring may be a “solution” in search of a “problem”. The need for restructuring, the rationale for the extreme urgency, and the priorities must be made clear. The Provost (and President) must exercise both clear leadership and engagement of faculty and students in order to realize an acceptable and genuinely constructive College restructuring.

5. Voting Item 2: College Restructuring Concerns—Resolution.

- a. A motion was made to approve the following resolution: “The faculty find the process and timeline for restructuring to be irresponsible, damaging, and without foresight.”
- b. The vote was conducted by electronic device.
 - i. Total votes—105.
 - ii. Yes – 81%
 - iii. No – 11%
 - iv. Abstain – 8%
- c. The motion was approved.

6. Voting Item 3: College Restructuring Delay—Resolution.

- a. A motion was made to approve the following resolution: “Delay any consideration of the restructuring of the College until after the completion of Middle States assessment.”
- b. The vote was conducted by electronic device.
 - i. Total votes—104.
 - ii. Yes – 82%
 - iii. No – 10%

- iv. Abstain – 8%
- c. The motion was approved.

7. Extraordinary FA Meeting on Wednesday, April 19.

- a. Per the request of some of the FA's membership, an extraordinary FA meeting will be held on April 19 to discuss a "no confidence" motion in reference to the Provost's leadership.