




To: College of Arts & Sciences Faculty

From: Leonidas G. Bachas
Dean 

Subject: MINUTES of the College Faculty Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. – Wesley Gallery

Present: 60 Voting faculty

Date: November 22, 2013

1. Approval of the Minutes of the October 21 2013 Meeting

A motion to approve the minutes of the Special faculty meeting of October 21, 2013 was offered, seconded and unanimously approved.

2. Visit by President Shalala and Provost LeBlanc

President Shalala and Provost LeBlanc addressed the faculty in communicating UM priorities, update on the Momentum2 Campaign, and other matters that the faculty would like to be enlighten about. The President noted that her administration is pleased of its impact on donors and benefactors. She indicated that fundraising for the campaign is on target. The Medical School is doing financially better and has managed to close with surplus. She also spoke of the university's effort to subsidize study abroad. Financial aid places great emphasis on need when considering students' aid package to attract a more diverse student population. However, need-based financial aid does not compromise the quality of students accepted at the university. She noted the progress made with the construction projects, in particular, the neuroscience annex, renovation of the interior of the Cox Science Building (which will start in the summer), the new student center, the renovation of 1300 Campo Sano Drive Building which will lodge the Geography and Regional Studies, International Studies, Political Science departments, and the MAIA program. She announced the appointment of the new Dean of the Library, Dr. Charles Eckman, who will take office on December 1st. She indicated that the new science building for the College is on her priority list.

Provost LeBlanc thanked Professor JP Russo for chairing the search for the Dean of Library. He explained that the Momentum2 Campaign was drafted with realistic goals. The College is at 91% of meeting its goal. He noted that the development agreement with the City of Gables helps the university to proceed with its master plan in regards to building and/or renovating facilities. He described the location where the new science

facility will be built (between the Engineering Building and Cox Science Building, by the Physics Building).

The Provost talked at length about online education. He indicated that the university has to be on par with other universities that are already in this market. A Taskforce was formed to look at online education and make recommendations. Provost LeBlanc enumerated online endeavors that the university is already offering: the online high school education program, the CITI program, the online BGS program, the Ph.D. program in Biochemistry. He also noted that the Schools of Business and Nursing are offering online education through their graduate programs as well. He mentioned some advantages related to online education such as helping our seniors to take courses online to graduate on time and to do study abroad while taking online courses. He explained that a single mechanism is needed in order for the university to continue more broadly with online education. Thus, the effort to form a partnership with one of the expert companies in the business. The Provost reassured the faculty that online education will be kept at the same standard as traditional teaching – i.e., high learning standards.

Provost LeBlanc made reference to two major factors that are happening in education: Virtual and Global. The university is working hard to make study abroad available to more students. He noted some programs that are being offered – UGalapagos, URome, UCapetown, UCusco, UPrague, etc. The university is also looking at other ventures in India, China, Jerusalem. ACC started a study abroad program for the athletes, which is a three-week program in Vietnam. All these programs emanated from faculty members who have interest in a particular region and asked for these partnerships.

3. Senior Faculty Status Voting Rights -- Action item

The Faculty Senate provided the following information to the College regarding the voting rights of faculty in senior status:

1. Faculty Members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS may not vote on tenure, progress towards Tenure, promotion of members of the REGULAR FACULTY, evaluation of the Provost, or any changes to part A of the Faculty Manual.
2. If authorized under paragraph 3, faculty members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS may vote on the reappointment and promotion of members of the UNIVERSITY FACULTY.
3. If authorized in accordance with this paragraph, faculty members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS may vote on all matters on which UNIVERSITY FACULTY may vote, including those allowed for RESEARCH and EDUCATOR FACULTY under FM A3.1.
 - a) The tenured REGULAR FACULTY of a department may decide on whether to extend voting rights to its members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS on any or all departmental matters including, but not limited to initial appointments, curricula matters, re-appointment of non-REGULAR FACULTY of lower rank, evaluation of the department chair, and promotion of non-REGULAR FACULTY of lower rank.
 - b) The tenured REGULAR FACULTY of the College of Arts and Sciences may decide on whether to extend voting rights to those of its members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS in any or all of the following matters:
 - (1) Evaluation of the dean; and
 - (2) All other College of Arts and Sciences matters

c) Any member on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS may, by written petition, require that a department or the College shall place the issue of the authorization by the REGULAR FACULTY specified in this paragraph on the next scheduled meeting of the department or College faculty.

The College faculty voted to extend the maximum voting rights permissible under these rules to those of its members on SENIOR FACULTY STATUS.

Note: These rights will remain in effect until such time as the faculty vote to change them in a future meeting of the College faculty.

- 4. Carnegie Classification in Community Engagement – Professor Robin Bachin**
Professor Robin Bachin explained how the Carnegie Classification in Community Engagement works and the significance of it. She indicated that elective classification is based on voluntary participation by institutions that takes place on a five-year cycle. It provides a way for institutions to describe their identity and commitments to community with a public and nationally recognized classification. She gave the definitions of curricular engagement, community engagement, and outreach and partnership. She also talked about some application key questions, the Carnegie taskforce, etc. Senior Associate Dean Maria Galli Stampino is the College liaison if any faculty member has questions.
- 5. Approval of the Proposal for an Independent Major (IM)**
Senior Associate Dean Maria Galli Stampino presented the proposal for an Independent Major in the College. After her justification, the faculty voted unanimously to approve the proposal.
- 6. Approval of the Proposal for a Program in Interdisciplinary Studies**
The faculty unanimously approved the Program in Interdisciplinary Studies after Dean Bachas explained the purpose of this program.
- 7. Approval of the Proposal to Repeal the Requirement for Undergraduate ECS Majors to Complete a Second Major**
Professors Gina Maranto and Kenny Broad presented the proposal. They noted that they have surveyed other institutions with a similar program, and none has a second major requirement. They also explained that students will be able to choose a second major if they want to. This proposal was also approved unanimously by the faculty.
- 8. Approval of the Proposal for an Environmental Sustainability Certificate Program**
Professor Maranto explained that this is a student-led proposal. The program will be administered by the Director and Assistant Director of the ECS program. She noted that there was thought about creating a minor instead of a certificate program. The faculty voted unanimously in favor of the certificate program.
- 9. Faculty Senate Report – Professor Victor Milenkovic**
Professor Milenkovic presented the report of the Faculty Senate.
- 10. Other Business --** There was no other business. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.