

## **Minutes of the Dornsife College Faculty Council Meeting**

**April 6, 2016**

**3:30-5:00 pm**

**Present:** Darren Ruddell (President), Farida Habeeb (Secretary), Gerald Davison, Wiebke Ziebis, Ed McCann, Bob Girandola, Sheila Briggs, David Tomkins, Lori Mesrobian, Nathalie Burle, Lowell Stott, Giorgio Coricelli

**1. Review of prior meeting minutes:** The council approved the minutes from the March meeting.

**2. Academic Senate 3/23 meeting summary:** Council members provided a summary of the March Academic Senate meeting. The Senate approved the Resolution on Part-Time Faculty. The change to Faculty Titles also was approved, but the Faculty Handbook committee will have to ratify the changes before they can be implemented.

**3. Discussion Points:** President Ruddell led a discussion on DFC election results, the March meeting with Interim Dean Byrd, and current resolutions. Highlights included:

--Ten new members will be joining the DFC in 2016-2017, but none of them is tenured or tenure-track. Concern was raised about maintaining TT representation on the council, which all members agreed is important. Possible solutions to the problem include asking department chairs to encourage TT members to nominate themselves or asking current TT members to urge their colleagues to join; however, no one should be forced to join. Diminishing TT representation may reflect the changing landscape of faculty at the university more broadly, not just in Dornsife. It may also reflect the "advisory" nature of the council, which cannot mandate changes and therefore may seem less desirable to join.

--Amanda Blumenthal, an undergraduate in the School of Gerontology, met with the council on the resolution to create a smoke-free Dornsife. She founded a smoke-free coalition that circulated a survey to the student body and found that both undergraduate and graduate students were overwhelmingly in favor of making USC smoke-free. USC has voted in favor of a smoke-free campus, but governing faculty bodies like DFC still need to vote in order for the resolution to pass. In favor: 12. Opposed: 0. Abstain: 0. The motion was approved.

--The council discussed the proposals that Interim Dean Byrd agreed to and whether to approve, deny, or renegotiate. In regards to Faculty Development Awards, the NTT Affairs Caucus is in favor of the proposal to grant more flexible FDAs to RTPC faculty with the option of a 1-year rollover as long as no funding is being taken away from TT faculty. Concern was raised that the supplemental \$1000 currently allotted to TT faculty will be taken away in order to fund TT computer grants. The council moved to reject Interim Dean Byrd's proposal on TT computer grants, and it wants any faculty with teaching responsibilities to have access to computer funds by July 1, no exceptions. In regards to the DFC annual operating budget, the council agreed to move forward with the budget and with establishing a Budget Committee. The council also moved to table the discussion on promotional tracks.

--Bob Girandola has begun drafting a resolution on campus safety in regards to bicycles, skateboards, and other transportation methods that interfere with pedestrian traffic. He will submit the full resolution to the council at the next meeting.

**4. Discussion of the 1<sup>st</sup> Dean Candidate:** The council largely had a good first impression of the first candidate in the Dornsife Dean search.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10.

Respectfully submitted,  
Farida Habeeb  
Secretary, Dornsife Faculty Council