

Minutes of the Dornsife College Faculty Council Meeting

March 4 , 2015

3:00-5:00 pm

Present: Eric Webb (President), Darren Ruddell (Vice President), Jeff Chisum (Secretary), Giorgio Coricelli, Ann Crigler, Lowell Stott, Gerald Davison, Erin Moore, Dana Johnson, Farida Habeeb

1. Approval / Review of Minutes from the 2/11 Meeting: The council approved the minutes from the February meeting.

2. Review of the 2/18 Senate Meeting: Secretary Jeff Chisum and Ann Crigler provided a summary of the February Senate Meeting. Highlights included:

--A moment of silence for the passing of Prof. Ann Neville-Jan, who was a crusader for disability rights on campus

--Some remarks from Interim Provost Michael Quick, who spoke (among other things) about the UCAR process, and about the ongoing search for the new Provost. Announcement of such should take place in March or April.

--Academic Vice President Ginger Clark spoke on "campus climate," particularly with respect to questions of racial tensions. She announced a "mini-retreat" dealing with this topic to be held on Friday, March 6.

--Tony Mazza, Director of Trojan Transportation, addressed parking-related challenges on campus. He pointed out that hundreds of new parking spaces will be added over the course of the construction of the University Village; however, this still won't be enough to meet current needs. A couple of suggestions were made about using existing spaces more efficiently (i.e., via monitoring the hourly use of reserved spots). Mazza agreed to look into these concerns further.

--USG President Andrew Menard gave a PowerPoint presentation on a proposed "Fall Break." If approved, the break would consist of two days in October. The lost time would be made up by extending the Fall semester into the Winter Break. The Senate agreed to hold off on discussing the matter until later.

--A presentation was given on the retirement options at USC.

3. Distinguished Faculty Service Award: Ann Crigler urged members of the Council to submit nominations for the Senate's Distinguished Faculty Service Award.

4. The Faculty Affairs Caucus's Memo to Dean Kay: The Council re-examined the memo written by the Faculty Affairs Caucus, which requests that all Dornsife faculty be granted a standing \$3000-per-year Teaching and Research fund to cover trips to conferences, computer expenses, and so on. Final revisions were made to the document, and President Webb indicated that he would submit the finalized document to Dean Kay in preparation for the April 1 visit.

5. Questions for the Dean's Visit: Once again the Council discussed potential questions / discussion topics to be posed for the meeting with Dean Kay. Relevant issues that emerged included:

- Department benchmarks and best practices
- Issues pertaining to the UCAR process
- Questions about the nature and structure of the Dornsife Deans bureaucracy
- Questions about a potential staffing crunch and/or scheduling issues related to the new GE program
- NTT issues: specifically, the role that NTTs play in Dornsife

6. A Report from the NTT Caucus: NTT Caucus Chair Erin Moore gave a report on the Caucus's 2/26 meeting, and she distributed minutes. Several concerns emerged during the meeting, including: job security, the nature of and requirements for promotion to full professor (and whether this should carry with it a form of "teaching tenure"), salary, and funding for conferences. Particular concerns were raised about the clarity of the promotional guidelines, especially the question of whether or not non-pedagogy-related scholarship should "count" towards the promotion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Chisum
Secretary, Dornsife Faculty Council