

Minutes of the Dornsife College Faculty Council Meeting

September 3, 2014

3:00-5:00 pm

Present: Eric Webb (President), Darren Ruddell (Vice President), Jeff Chisum (Secretary), Farida Habeeb, Kyung Moon Hwang, Ann Crigler, Dana Johnson, Ed McCann, Lowell Stott, Wiebke Ziebis, Gerald Davison, Erin Moore

1. Introductions: After the summer hiatus, councilmembers got re-acquainted with one another.

2. Review of the Senate Retreat: Attendees of the senate retreat discussed key highlights, noting that votes were taken on the faculty senate's directions and goals for the coming year. Topics receiving a large number of votes included: safety and security; sustainability; faculty morale; the role of faculty governance; NTT issues and concerns; and academic integrity.

Other highlights from the retreat included a talk by Provost Garrett, in which she underscored the administration's concern for safety and security. There were also two panel presentations: one on safety and security, featuring Capt. Steve Allegre of DPS, and another on "big data" and analytics, featuring Senate President John Silvester.

3. Discussion on Goals for this Year's Council: President Webb suggested the phrase "Enriching Faculty" as a descriptor for this year's DFC's activities, noting an emphasis on teaching, research, and scholarship.

4. Election of Representatives for Caucuses: A sign-up sheet was passed around soliciting volunteers for participation on the council's four caucuses.

5. Planning for Dean Kay's October 1 Visit: A discussion ensued on the sorts of topics that might be forwarded to Dean Kay prior to his meeting with the council in October. Several items emerged:

--Faculty morale. Council members noted that improvements might be made in terms of funding for travel to conferences; updating computers; pilot money for research projects; and recognition of faculty achievements and milestones.

--Changes and developments pertaining to the new/revised General Education program.

--The various strengths and weakness of Dornsife (in general), and the characteristics of a strong department (more specifically).

--The structure, roles, and chain-of-command within the Dornsife Dean's administration.

--Changes to graduate programs, particularly regarding funding and enrollment.

Secretary Jeff Chisum agreed to type up a list of questions which would then be vetted by the President and the rest of the council before being submitted to Dean Kay.

The meeting came to a conclusion at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Chisum
Faculty Council Secretary