

Minutes of the Dornsife College Faculty Council Meeting

**May 4, 2016
3:00-5:00 pm**

Present: Darren Ruddell (President), Jeff Chisum (Vice President), Farida Habeeb (Secretary), Gerald Davison, Ed McCann, Bob Girandola, David Tomkins, Lori Mesrobian, Nathalie Burle, Lowell Stott, Emily Zeamer, Antoine Bechara, Giola Polidori, Matthew Kahn, Iva Bozovic, Shannon Gibson, Rebecca Broyer, Dana Johnson, Erik Kolb, Geraldine Peters, Dan Pecchenino, Trisha Tucker, Sheila Briggs

1. Introductions: President Ruddell and Vice President Chisum led the Council in a discussion on the main objectives of DFC. Highlights included:

- Council members introduced themselves.
- President Ruddell distributed the 2016-2017 roster and emphasized the service requirements enunciated in the DFC bylaws. Members must attend the DFC council meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, from 3-5 PM. Members also must serve either on a DFC caucus or on the Academic Senate.
- Vice President Chisum enumerated the different DFC caucuses. Caucuses can change, but the Academic Senate caucus always remains, and it enables members to engage in the main governing body of the university. Other caucuses include Curriculum, Faculty Affairs, and Research. A Budget caucus will be established in order to address issues such as transparency in the Dornsife budget and faculty salaries.
- A few council members mentioned that they do have conflicts with the DFC meeting time, but that they plan to work them out. If a council member cannot work out the conflict, then his or her seat will be filled by the next candidate who obtained the most votes during the election.

2. Review of prior meeting minutes: The council approved the minutes from the April meeting.

3. Academic Senate 4/20 meeting summary: Council members provided a summary of the April Academic Senate meeting. The meeting covered three main issues: the introduction of candidates for the Executive Board of the Senate; the faculty salary benchmarking Resolution, which was sent back for further revision; and Resolutions on bike safety and research reproducibility.

4. Discussion Points: President Ruddell led the Council in a discussion on current DFC Resolutions, the Dornsife Dean search, the election of the new DFC board, and DFC priorities for 2016-2017. Highlights included:

- After following up with Interim Dean Byrd, President Ruddell announced that a DFC Budget committee will be established next year and will consult with Steve Mackey. In addition, an Annual Operating Budget of \$10,000 will be established for campus enrichment, campus events, and refreshments, effective July 1. Next year's Council must consider how to spend these funds most effectively.
- It was suggested that an annual report of DFC accomplishments be circulated to the rest of the faculty next year in order raise visibility and awareness.

--Important DFC Resolutions from 2015-2016 included: the removal of parentheticals from RTPC faculty's titles; the extension of Faculty Development Awards; and a smoke-free Dornsife. Concern was raised that faculty with a merit rating lower than M+ will be excluded from seeking FDAs, which may hurt those with higher research needs but a lower merit rating. Concern also was raised that the removal of the parenthetical without the elimination of "Teaching" or "Research" from RTPC titles isn't very helpful; this issue must be brought up again with the new Dean.

--The Council discussed the candidates in the Dornsife Dean Search and agreed to provide feedback directly to Provost Quick over the next few days. It was mentioned that Candidate #1 was articulate and creative but inexperienced. Candidate #2 was well-spoken and attentive but lacked an engaging affect. Finally, Candidate #3 was charismatic and seemed experienced and committed but may not thrive at fundraising.

--The DFC Executive Board consists of the President, the Vice President, and the Secretary. Jeff Chisum will serve as President in 2016-2017. All Executive Board members serve on the Academic Senate, which usually meets on the third Wednesday of each month, from 2-4 PM. No course release is granted for serving on the Executive Board, but the work absolutely counts as service to the university. The role of the President is fairly time-intensive, requiring multiple meetings and the crafting of Resolutions and agendas. The Vice President must compose many emails communicating with the Council and other faculty in Dornsife. The Secretary must take minutes, oversee the DFC election, and attend Academic Senate meetings and Retreats.

--Nominations to the DFC Executive Board are as follows: for Secretary, Shannon Gibson and Dan Pecchenino; for Vice President, Trisha Tucker and Sheila Briggs. Secretary Habeeb will send out a ballot email; all Council members, whether outgoing or not, are encouraged to reply to cast their vote.

--DFC priorities for 2016-2017 are as follows: faculty salary benchmarking; the Budget committee; programming; communicating with the Budget Office; solidifying our relationship with the Dean's Office; establishing named chairs for teaching faculty; the tenure system; the possibility of tenure for teaching faculty; sustainability; computers for TT faculty; the clarification of documentation and policies; sabbaticals for (Research) faculty; and interdisciplinarity in Dornsife.

5. Announcements: The next DFC meeting will be 9/7, in RRI 321, from 3-5 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,
Farida Habeeb
Secretary, Dornsife Faculty Council