



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Faculty Senate

Presentation from the President

Joseph M. McShane, S.J., addressed the Senate, commenting on the following topics:

- *Admissions*: Fordham has received a record 47,437 applications for undergraduate admission, up 4% from last year. Numbers of applications have increased more at Lincoln Center than at Rose Hill; they have also increased in expanding markets, including Texas and California. The applicant pool includes higher numbers of Latinx, Native American, Asian/Asian-American, and Black applicants.
- *Fundraising*: The University has received more than \$25 million in donations during the fiscal year to date. The “Faith and Hope” financial aid campaign will conclude by the end of June, and the University will move quickly into its next campaign.
- *American Talent Initiative*: Among several meetings of university presidents that Fr. McShane has recently attended, the American Talent Initiative is a cohort of elite institutions seeking collectively to increase the number of students receiving Pell grants by 50,000 by the year 2025.

Presentation from the Interim Provost

Jonathan M. Crystal addressed the Senate. He indicated that he had met with the incoming Provost, Dr. Dennis Jacobs, who will be visiting Fordham monthly this semester. Dr. Crystal indicated that he will be continuing to work on the initiatives he had outlined at the beginning of the academic year, including resources for pedagogy, support for research, ongoing efforts in the area of diversity, and especially conversations about faculty workload and student retention. Senators discussed with Dr. Crystal the need for Fordham to allocate adequate space to academic purposes, including tutoring centers, faculty offices, and collaborative space.

Proposals regarding the University Statutes

Senate President Keller introduced two proposals for revisions to the University Statutes.

- The first proposal adds a new sub-section to section 4.06-08 of the Statutes to charter the Faculty Senate Online and Hybrid Learning Committee. With applause, the Senate commended Senator Mozes and Dr. Crystal for their collaborative work in developing this language, as well as their care in crafting a structure for the committee that ensures ongoing collaboration among the schools, the Senate, and the Provost’s Office. The Senate approved the proposal, 20-0-0, and then adopted by a 20-0-0 vote a motion to recommend that the Senate assess in spring 2024 the functioning of and continuing need for the committee.
- The second proposal introduces the position of Provost into the language of section 3-02.01 of the Statutes, replacing language concerning the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs. Senate President Keller noted that it has been a longstanding desire of the faculty that the position of the Provost be recognized in the Statutes. The Senate approved this proposal as well, 20-0-0.
- The text of both these proposals will be forthcoming with the minutes of this meeting of the Senate.

Key Conversation: CUSP 2.0

The Senate was joined by the co-chairs of the Continuous University Strategic Planning (CUSP) Committee: Peter A. Stace, Senior Vice President for Enrollment and Strategy, Dr. Crystal, and Senator Hornbeck. The co-chairs described the current stage of the strategic planning process, which will result in a set of transformational strategic initiatives to be approved by the Board of Trustees in December 2019. The Senate reviewed a document outlining early discussions to date, including initiatives in the areas of holistic student formation, pedagogy and staff development, research focused on the common good and sustainable development, and student access and success. In a lively conversation, Senators reacted to the document, highlighted the need for the process to bring forward goals that differentiate Fordham and can be assessed, suggested other areas for consideration, and encouraged the CUSP Committee to solicit further feedback. The co-chairs welcomed further input from Senators and asked them to send further input by email.

Procedural Matters and Announcements: The Senate approved the minutes of the meeting of January 25, 2019. Senate President Keller announced that a recent lunch for Senate representatives and members of the Board of Trustees had been well received. She hopes that it will be the first of many positive interactions between faculty and Board members.