



FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

THE JESUIT UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

FACULTY SENATE

REPORT OF ACTION BY THE FACULTY SENATE

March 27, 2015

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Senate President Mary Ann Forgey at 12:38 p.m. in the South Lounge, Leon Lowenstein Building, Lincoln Center Campus.

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting

The Senate approved (10-0-4) the corrected minutes of the meeting of February 20, 2015 (Park-Taylor/Vernon).

Revision of Statutes concerning Distinguished Professor

The Senate approved (19-0-0) changes to its resolution of April 27, 2012, concerning the Statutes regarding the title of Distinguished Professor (§4-02.04) and the appointment of Distinguished Professors (§4-05.07) (Vernon/Baumgarth).

Best Practices concerning Student Evaluations of Teaching

The Senate referred to the Faculty Development Committee a matter concerning electronic student evaluations of teaching in the various faculties of the University, asking the committee to consider what is currently being done and to recommend best practices to personnel committees and merit committees (19-0-0; Vernon/Koterski).

Revision of Statutes concerning Faculty Research Expense Program (FREP)

The Senate considered a motion (Hornbeck/Nissim) to approve the changes to the Statutes regarding the Faculty Research Expense Program (formerly Grants-in-Aid) recommended by the University Research Council. A motion (Vernon/McGee) was made to table this motion, and the motion to table carried (15-0-4).

Continuous Strategic Planning Process

The Senate approved (19-0-0) the following motion in response to the President of the University's request for Senate input into the development of a continuous strategic planning process (Hornbeck/Clark):

In response to an invitation from the President of the University to contribute to the development of Fordham's new continuous strategic planning process, the Faculty Senate recommends:

- (a) that the group of University personnel tasked with leading the planning process be sufficiently small as to be nimble and effective and include at least three members of the Faculty, one of them the President of the Faculty Senate, ex officio, or her or his delegate, and the others to be chosen by the Faculty Senate; the Senate shall choose at least one of these from among the faculty of the professional schools if the President of the Senate is a member of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, or from among the Faculty of Arts and Sciences if the President of the Senate is a member of a professional school faculty;*
- (b) that one of these faculty members should be designated by the President of the Faculty Senate to serve on the leadership team of the continuous strategic planning process;*
- (c) that no meetings of the planning group take place in the absence of the faculty representatives described above, with appropriate notice having been provided to all members when meetings are called;*
- (d) that the continuous planning process make use of the labor already being expended by deans, department/area chairs, and others in the development of annual reports;*
- (e) that there be a mechanism for all members of the University community to make suggestions concerning the University's short-, medium-, and long-range plans; and*
- (f) that any reports and documents developed by the central planning committee be shared in full with the faculty.*

Senate Fund Reimbursement Process

The Senate approved (18-0-0) the following motion concerning the establishment of a legal reserve fund (Clark/Jackson):

The Faculty Senate directs the establishment of a legal reserve fund. The legal reserve is to be used when the Statutes are violated and redress is not available through usual channels, as well as for other matters concerning the Faculty Senate's duty to uphold shared governance at Fordham University.

Faculty members who previously contributed to the Senate's legal defense fund will be asked if they are willing to contribute to the reserve fund using the balance of their original contribution. To those contributors who do not affirm their willingness to use their original contribution for this purpose, the remainder of unused original contributions are to be returned, in proportion to the amounts given.

Commencement Speaker and Honorary Degree Recipients

The Senate approved (17-0-0) the following motion (McGee/Nissim):

The Faculty Senate respectfully reminds the President of the University that the Statutes specify that there be a Commencement Committee charged with advising him with regard to the selection of the commencement speaker and honorary degree recipients.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.