

President David Courard-Hauri called a regular meeting of the 2017-2018 Faculty Senate to order at 3:30 p.m. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Dan Alexander, Klaus Bartschat, David Courard-Hauri, Renee Cramer, Debra De Laet, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, Bengu Erguner-Tekinalp, Lourdes Gutierrez Najera, Teri Koch, Jerrid Kruse, Sarah McCoy, Jennifer McCrickerd, Chip Miller, Craig Owens, Chuck Phillips, Nancy Reincke, Elizabeth Robertson, Heidi Sleister, Mark Vitha, Melissa Weresh

Absent: Robyn Cooper, Jerry Honts, Dorothy Pisarski, David Wright

The October 2017 minutes were approved.

President Martin Report:

At the December Social (on Thursday, 14th), Chief Financial Officer Teresa Krejci will make a budget presentation. While a budget shortfall happened due to lower than budgeted Fall 2017 enrollment, the presentation is expected to present how the budget has been brought “into balance”. President Martin encouraged all faculty and staff to attend. An additional budget consideration is the existing mold problem within a set of the residence halls. The process continues to determine the best solution and its cost. President Martin stated he has indicated the solution needs to be scheduled for summer 2018. The goal is to have all four buildings fixed in the summer and not to put students in buildings with mold next year.

President Martin was pleased to announce the hiring of a new Athletic Director Bruce Hardin who will officially begin his duties in mid-December.

President Martin’s report continued with replies to questions sent to him:

- 1) What option is there to collect from the contractor, which worked on the residence halls most recent renovation that is are they accountable for the situation? How will a similar situation be avoided in the future?

The issue is more an issue of the design rather than the remodel itself. The work was done to code. Yes, legal recourse is being explored yet it is difficult to say what was known at the time concerning the work being planned and completed (2006-2008). Concerning the future, President Martin stated Drake has regained control of the organizational working of our facilities. Now a member of the staff is an architect, which is an example of how Drake facilities is organizationally different than we were in the past.

The ‘mold fix’ will include improving the HVAC system or ventilation improvement and the insulation. The solutions range in price from \$4 to \$12 million.

- 2) Simpson College has announced a tuition free plan for low-income students. How will this affect Drake?

From information received from Deputy Provost Keith Summerville of three years of cross-applications, a big impact is not expected. There are furloughs happening this year and this tuition plan may not be a successful situation for Simpson. President Martin would not confirm if personnel layoffs are also happening at Simpson.

The pool of students eligible for this plan are Iowa students in a household income range which makes the student eligible for Pell and Iowa Tuition Grant money. The tuition plan most likely calls for a slight increase in their institutional funds. President Martin was not worried about this plan affecting student recruitment when the aid package and institutional values are evaluated. President Martin did not available a specific number of current bachelor seeking students who fit this profile.

Senator McCrickerd stated she sees this plan as a public relations situation, which may draw some more applicants. President Martin stated that will be a challenge for them if it is too popular and the institution would need to figure out how to afford the results. He acknowledged this plan gets the public attention and raises the chance for some ‘free publicity’, referencing the Des Moines Register front-page mention.

Drake competes for students based on value and the quality offered. Drake has shifted more aid to the lower income scale in 2017 and again for 2018. The difficulty is breaking through the perception of “we cannot afford” private higher education. Drake’s public perception is shifting a little bit. The financial aid shifts is one of the reasons to work toward turning around the costs of the operating performance. Reaching the Crew Scholars and Flight students are two examples of how Drake has provided a narrative past the sticker price. Additionally, Admission is moving more of their recruiting time and personnel into schools, which have particular demographics, which Drake is trying to reach. The Admission Office is being intentional about their time. Concerning the rollout of 160/90 program, it is expected to help “get a good yield from increased applications”, stated President Martin.

- 3) Faculty expressed an interest in updates concerning the current high-profile lawsuits. President Martin indicated that documents have been appropriately filed and are available through court records in each of the cases. He stated there has been an effort to keep many individual portions of the cases out of the press. He was willing to consider sharing information, as he also desired to ensure “not making matters worse”.

Provost Mattison Report:

There are two Dean position searches, which are preparing to bring their top candidates to campus early in December. Provost Mattison acknowledged this will be an already busy time of the year, yet she hopes many faculty will take the time to meet the candidates.

During the interviews for the Athletic Director position, both the current Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) Steve Scullen and past FAR Renae Chesnut met the candidate with the Provost. Provost Mattison indicated Mr. Brian Hardin holds the student portion of student athlete label quite high. She stated, “I think you’ll appreciate his commitment to students”.

Provost Mattison then shared with Senators and individuals present a set of documents, which she had already shared with the Senate Budget Committee, Senate Executive Committee and the Arts & Sciences Department Chairs. The conversation opened with the Provost briefly outlining each document. In response to questions, the Provost stated the faculty numbers are fulltime faculty.

She then shared two unit financial case studies: Law School and School of Journalism & Mass Communications (SJMC). The Law School has experienced a decline in faculty and staff amidst various national enrollment pressures. This unit has gone without pay raises for four years and they have focused on their budget and their programs. This exercise of taking the long view, Provost Mattison continued, has allowed the Law School to now “hold steady” without any bail out from the University. This year, the Law School employees are receiving raises.

SJMC is also followed a similar pattern of looking at their curricular programs, especially of how they can gain a wider audience. Their move, with their quality programming, into Drake On-line (DOL) is what the Provost believes will help move the University to long term solid financial footing. The Provost said that when she reviewed and reallocated resources this past fall when looking at faculty position requests was based on the example of these units. She did not ask for any curricula changes, yet asked persons to look at their curriculum and the data. This is the challenge.

The Senate Budget Committee has been focused at looking at the data and have been involved in the beginning of a review of Drake’s summer operation. Provost Mattison reminded the body that she has been a faculty member and knows that role. What she can also appreciate is what the Law School faculty did as a group with the long view and a lot of work.

The Provost and President were asked for comments or a brief summary of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) site visit. The current portion of the full process allows Drake to reply to ‘factual inaccuracies’. This task is almost complete. The Provost stated she believes it unlikely Drake will lose any accreditation.

President Courard-Hauri Report:

Andrea Charlow, Senate Budget Committee (SBC) Chair, was introduced. She opened with some Senate Budget Committee history offering that she has served on the SBC for many years. While this administration is still fairly new, Ms. Charlow called Drake’s leadership forth coming, proactive and willing to listen. Ms. Charlow also noted that several Senators and persons present have SBC experience. She stated one task is the identification of areas where faculty can make a difference and then move proactively rather than reactively. It is difficult to plan and then be told to cut money. Ms. Charlow suggests departments look at course enrollments for the last four years, for example, and determine if courses with low enrollments

really need to be offered as often as they have been offered. It is not a fun exercise, yet planning and offering courses with higher enrollments may reduce the adjunct instructor expenses. She stated she realizes that some adjuncts are specialized yet lowering the adjunct expenses will help the budget. The Law School did not call the process Program Review, but they did look at the courses in the curriculum. The work may not immediately yield huge savings, yet moving towards a sustainable budget at the unit and University level is the real need.

Several questions were presented concerning, which courses are or are not included in the distributed documents. Senator Cramer stated she was not convinced that only looking at the low enrolled courses and adjunct expenses would yield the total savings needed. Ms. Charlow agreed it is not the only step, yet the curriculum is within the authority of the faculty and it is a start. Senator Bartschat reminded the group that FYS courses formerly were capped at 19 student enrollments and now are not. The 19 student cap helps some of the publicly reviewed statistics and Drake's national rankings. Senator Erguner-Tekinalp offered that graduate program faculty take on the task of their own program marketing and recruiting. She finds this frustrating. She would like some help with general services. Ms. Charlow closed the conversation agreeing that sometimes "we need to spend money to make money" and that is something, which also needs to be budgeted in a sustainable way.

Old Business:

Senator Miller and McCrickerd moved and seconded Motion **18:02**

Vote on the Revised Drake Curriculum (RDC), as proposed

When asked, President Courard-Hauri clarified that the outcomes, which Faculty Senate passed in 2016 were in support of the Drake Curriculum revision effort. This motion passing or failing will not immediately change the existing Areas of Inquiry (AOI), which current students are using within their degree programs.

The motion failed on a voice vote (zero in favor, multiple against, and two abstentions)

New Business:

President Courard-Hauri indicated he has had a conversation with the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) Chair, Carrie Dunham-LaGree concerning their involvement in Drake Curriculum (DC) possible revision next steps. The ask was for UCC, with assistance from Kevin Saunders and Gregory Lin from the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, to determine if the current AOIs map, or could be mapped, consistently within the curricular outcomes which were approved by Faculty Senate during the most recent revision discussions. If the mapping cannot be done, then part two of the request is to consider possible AOI description changes, which would make that AOI consistent with the outcomes.

President Courard-Hauri acknowledged that UCC's effort of mapping and any suggested description changes would not be finished in the next month or two. In addition, it may well not be finalized during the Spring 2018 semester.

Senators Phillips and Cramer moved and seconded motion **18:03**:

Approve, without a time limit, the Intercollegiate Athletic Council Missed Class Policy, Principles and Procedures as currently published in Faculty Manual within Section 2.114 Recording and Reporting of Student Absences

The motion passed on a voice vote without discussion

The meeting ended at 4:52 p.m.