

FACULTY COUNCIL
Minutes
Wednesday, February 26th, 2020
3:00-5:00 PM – CLC 206, WTC; IC 332, LSC; SSOM 429, HSD

Members Present: Boykin, T.; Brown, J.; Conley, J.; Dahari, H.; Dentato, M.; Holschen, J.; Johnson, B.; Kang, H.; Langman, L.; Lash, N.; Martin, C.; Miller, H.; Moore, K.; Moran, G.; Pope, L.; Ridosh, M.; Roberts, E.; Rushin, S.; Shoenberger, A.; Uprichard, S.

Meeting was called to order at 3:06pm by the Vice-chair (Conley).

1. Approval of January 29th, 2020 minutes. Moved (Moran); seconded (Ridosh). Motion passed unanimously.
2. Committee Reports
 - *Faculty Service:* Presentation by James Conley on his newly built SharePoint site for Faculty Council in the university's Microsoft Office Cloud (<https://loyolauniversitychicago.sharepoint.com/sites/facultycouncil>).
 - Some faculty have already reported difficulties in accessing the SharePoint site, especially those with a medical center domain address (prof@lumc.edu). Faculty with regular luc.edu addresses do not seem to be affected.
 - Moving forward, we will be requesting status reports from Council committees be submitted mid-month, about 2 weeks before Council meets (hopefully in time for the executive committee to review them). Please use the report form; it should not take long to fill out. Fresh ones will be posted each month in the committee's regular folder.
 - Suggestion: perhaps an extra button in the top row of the main screen for "Faculty Council Accomplishments"? Conley: excellent idea. (Service committee needs suggestions and lists of Faculty Council accomplishments!)

I (Conley) have also reached out to councilmembers who are considering running for reelection. On Friday I will send out the list of Faculty Council compliments and call for nominations for election to the Council. Will have about a week for nominations, a few days more for that for elections, and we should have everyone in place and notified by little after the middle of March.

Also, the Dean evaluation questionnaire for Social Work has been sent to the Provost's office, but we haven't yet sent it out to Social Work faculty, since we haven't yet heard back from the new Provost.

- *Faculty Affairs* (Moran): We have been working on the sabbatical/leave proposal. Right now we are still in the data collection mode, looking at her institutions to see what their sabbatical policies and sabbatical grant funding rates are. We do know that here at Loyola we get about eighteen research leave grants per year across the

University, not counting the leaves awarded to tenure-track assistant professors in their third years, after they have undergone mid-probationary review. That works out to about a 7% rate of faculty with leaves in any given year. We are also looking to see which institutions give automatic and which competitive leaves.

- Comment (Shoenberger): A quick calculation shows that if leaves at Loyola were “automatic,” we would have a close to 15% rate.
- Comment (Miller): In the last attempt to get the administration to approve the sabbatical package, shepherded by David Schweickart in 2007-'08, Dave noted that at most universities he examined, sabbatical leave applications were not “automatic” in the sense that one needed to do nothing to obtain them: when still had to fill out forms, jump through various hoops. But as long as one jump through those hoops, one could be assured of a research leave. Only at a minority of institutions were research leaves truly “competitive,” in that leave application committees took it upon themselves to judge which research projects were more worth funding than others. Dave therefore suggested that our policy not call sabbatical leaves “automatic,” but “non-competitive.”
- Comment (Moore): I am on the Faculty Handbook revision committee, and we have been thinking about these issues. Faculty leaves, it should be pointed out, are handed out for a variety of purposes at Loyola: some for course development, some to administrators leaving their positions and returning to the faculty ranks to help them in transition. We should insist that faculty have a voice through their representative bodies in any decisions about future allocations of research leaves. Also, we need to take a look and make sure that allocations of research leaves do not exhibit race and gender biases.
- *Communication* (Pope, Conley): As we move forward with the Benefits Advisory Committee, Communication might be a good place to collect, compile, and disseminate information to the BAC.
- *Faculty Handbook* (Moore, Johnson): We have been making good progress on revisions, along with a memo to accompany them. The game plan is to have the president’s office and the OGC look at it, and then go forward. The handbook is a legal document which covers the terms of faculty employment at Loyola under Illinois law. It’s important that it be updated and that it reflect the appropriate relationships between administration, faculty, staff, and students.
- *Bylaws/Constitution* (Dentato): Paul Jones has taken a first stab at revisions, but it is a work in progress: we hope for a vote in April (which means we need the amendments by the March meeting).
- *150th Anniversary*: (Brown): I attended the University-wide committee on the anniversary a few weeks ago. The anniversary seems to be a UMC property: they are in control of organizing it and managing it. They have about a year and a half of events scheduled, or least roughed in. That calendar has a number of signature events, and if other units and colleges and schools want to add their own, then they

can develop packages and apply to have them added to the calendar. One hitch: your scheduling package has to use the approved font, and you'll have to buy your own copy of that font. My take away is that, if we want to add our own events to the signature package, we're pretty much on our own.

- Comment: (Conley): The University Archives is looking for faculty who have taken the VTIP offer to record oral histories.

3. University Senate Update (Uprichard)

- Senate spent its last meeting in a lively discussion about whether LUC campuses should go “smoke-free” or not. Basically, we decided that we needed to form a committee to look into all the details of a smoking/vaping ban, including regulations and enforcement. But what we also came to realize was that a poll or study of the opinions of students, staff, and faculty on the issue had never been undertaken. What I want to report is that the graduate student representatives had taken it upon themselves to work up a questionnaire on the matter — presumably for their own constituents — and send it to me for comments. I made some suggestions to them about how to make the survey a little more objective, but the survey seemed to be a good one. Perhaps this questionnaire could be circulated to everyone — students, faculty, and staff? I can pursue this if Council would like.

4. Questions for President Rooney in March

- Can she update us on any progress being made on growing the endowment so as to make the university less narrowly dependent on tuition revenue to finance its operating budget?
- What is the plan for preservation of tenured lines in rehiring faculty for VTIP replacement/“realignment”?
- The University seems to be changing its policy on the use of space for events (especially for non-Loyola organizations). Is the University treating its spaces as revenue generators? How will this impact academic-related activities?
- How will the University accommodate a projected 10% decline in enrolments in the near future?
- What is going on with international programs? What is the status of the confidential program evaluation currently underway on the international programs?
- Why are there so many empty positions in senior administration? Why are there “doubled up” positions, where single administrators have multiple roles?

5. Updates:

- “Shadow secretary” – we have two candidates who have tentatively expressed willingness to act as a shadow secretary, but both are up for reelection. We'll know soon who has been reelected and can resolve the issue then.

- International Strategy Report – currently overseen by Frank LaRocca, SJ, assistant Dean of Quinlan Business School Loyola University Chicago, and clinical assistant professor of management. Tavis Jules has been unable to get any information from him on the status of the report.
 - SmartEval Task Force (Pope): OIR has completed the preliminary analysis of fall semester responses to the new SmartEvals. There was a higher response rate (up 10%) than the previous year, which is good. There do not appear to be corrections for bias, *etc.*, included in the analysis. There was also some discussion of adding, to the standard survey, a question concerning whether the instructor had provided a good learning environment for students of diverse backgrounds. More details will be forthcoming soon.
 - Libraries mold issue (Martin): I had a discussion with Geoff Swindells, Associate Dean for Research, Learning, and Engagement, about the issue. As Dan Graham pointed out, the matter has largely been out of the hands of the libraries, and facilities has been remarkably uncommunicative and unhelpful. As far as we are aware, as of last Friday the University was still negotiating an insurance settlement to cover the costs of restitution of the collections. Only once these negotiations are complete will actual remediation efforts begin. And they will be very expensive, and take quite awhile.
6. Guest Speaker: Jim Pardonek (ITS) on multi-factor authentication (see separate presentation)
 7. Motion to Adjourn (Ridosh); second (Martin). Meeting adjourned at 5:04pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Hugh Miller, PhD, Secretary