I. Call to Order at 3:03 pm

II. Invocation by Prof. Edward Fallone.

Professor Fallone made a motion to amend the agenda that had been presented for this meeting. Only essential business items were retained (election of Senate Chair for next year, and votes to accept all annual committee reports.) This will be followed first by an open session during which faculty will have the opportunity to provide input regarding the rescission of the offer for A&S Dean. Senators are asked to listen in the open discussion period. Following this open session, the Academic Senate will go into executive session to deliberate the Academic Senate’s response. At the conclusion of the session the meeting will be reopened to guests and the decisions will be shared.

The motions from the Committee on Academic Policies and Issues as well as the Committee on Faculty Welfare will be reviewed in fall. There was a question regarding if the senate could hold additional meetings. Article C, subsection 3 indicates that the Chair has the authority to call a special meeting if it is deemed to be necessary.

The motion to amend the agenda was seconded. A 2/3 vote is required for its passage. A vote was taken: 35 yes, 0 no. The motion passes to use the substitute agenda for the meeting today.

III. Approval of April 19, 2010 Minutes

The minutes of April 19th were approved without amendment and seconded. A vote was taken: 35 yes, 0 no.

Members in Attendance: Dr. Albert Abena, Dr. Margaret Bloom, Prof. Bruce Boyden, Mr. John Brenner, Dr. Margaret Callahan, Dr. Sharon Chubbuck, Dr. James Courtright, Dr. Robert Deahl, Dr. Evelyn Donate-Bartfield, Dr. Alexander Drakopoulos, Prof. Edward Fallone, Dr. Marilyn Frenn, Ms. Ann Hanlon, Mrs. Susan Hopwood, Dr. Jeanne Hossenlopp, Mr. Stephen Hudson-Mairet, Dr. Sarah Knox, Mr. John Kristan, Dr. Christine L. Krueger, Dr. Cheryl Maranto, Dr. Daniel Meissner, Dr. Alexander Ng, Dr. Kristy Nielson, Dr. Maureen O’Brien, Dr. John Pauly, Dr. Linda Salchenberger, Dr. Heidi Schweizer, Dr. Guy Simoneau, Dr. James South, Dr. John Su, Mr. Henry Thomas, Dr. William Thorn, Ms. Janice Welburn, Dr. G.E. Otto Widera, Dr. William Wiener, Dr. Joyce Wolburg, Dr. Wanda Zemler-Cizewski

New members present: Dr. Lea Acord, Mr. Joseph Ciccone, Dr. Peter Jones, Ms. Meghan Ladwig, and Dr. Gary Meyer.

Guests present: Dr. Eugenia Afinoguenova, Ms. Priya Barnes, Dr. Connie Bauer, Dr. Amy Blair, Dr. Edward Blumenthal, Mr. Andy Brodzeller, Mrs. Omega Burckhardt, Dr. Jay Caulfield, Dr. Virginia Chappell, Ms. Sandy Cleveland, Ms. Colleen Coffey, Dr. Roberta Coles, Dr. Timothy Crockett, Ms. Anne Deahl, Dr. Ed. de St. Aubin, Mr. Dan DeWeerd, Ms. Jean Dole, Dr. Ellen Eckman, Dr. Kerry Egdorf, Dr. Stephen Engel, Dr. Bob Fitts, Fr. John Fitzgibbons, S.J., Dr. Suzanne Foster, Dr. Steven Franzoi, Mr. Steve Frieder, Mr. Chris Geiser, Ms. Sarah Gendron, Dr. Steve Goldzwig, Dr. Robert Griffin, Dr. Kristin Haglund, Dr. Carla Hay, Dr. Arthur Hefti, Mr. John Jentz, Mr. Andrew Karhl, Mr. Dale Kaser, Ms. Katie Kovach (Tribune Photographer), Mr. Chuck Lamb, Dr. Gene Lacziak, Dr. Linda Lee, Mr. David Leigh, Dr. Gary Levy, Dr. Barrett McCormick, Prof. Judith McMullen, Dr. Jodi Melamad, Dr. Michael Mohahan, Dr. Susan
Mountin, Dr. Michelle Mynlieff, Dr. Rebecca Nowacek, Dr. Michael Politano, Dr. Paula Papanek, Mr. Ricardo Patron, Ms. Mary Pat Pfeil, Dr. Julius Ruff, Ms. Stephanie Russell, Dr. Christopher Simenz, Mr. Tim Simmons, Dr. Nancy Snow, Dr. Elaine Spiller, Dr. Martin St. Maurice, Ms. Margaret Steele, Dr. Christopher Stockdale, Mr. Chris Stolarski, Dr. Rosemary Stuart, Dr. Angela Sorby, Dr. Theresa Tobin, Mr. Don Tortorice (Tribune Reporter), Dr. Franco Trivigno

Excused: Dr. Diane Hoeveler

Absent: Fr. Michael Class, SJ, and Dr. William Wiener

IV. A verbal report was given from Dr. James Courtright from the Committee on Committee and Elections. Ballots were passed out for voting for the 2010-2011 Chair of the University Academic Senate. There was one nomination for Chair: Dr. Christine Krueger, but there was a line for a write-in candidate.

V. Annual Reports of Committees. A motion was made to accept all the received written reports with one vote. This was seconded. A voice vote was taken, which was unanimous.

The following are the written reports that had been received by the senators prior to the meeting:

- University Board of Undergraduate Studies
- University Board of Graduate Studies
- Committee on Faculty Welfare
- Report from Sub-Committee on Equity
- Committee on Teaching
- Committee on Academic Policies and Issues
- Committee on Research
- Board for Student Media
- University Library Board
- University Assessment Committee
- University Academic Technology Committee

A vote was taken: 35 yes, 0 no.

VI. Open discussion of the Arts & Sciences Dean Search.
Prof. Fallone opened the discussion indicating that this was an opportunity for faculty, students, and the MU community to address the Academic Senate with their opinion about what the Senate should do concerning this issue. The Senate will receive information, but there will be no debate. Given the limited amount of time available for the Senate to complete its business and deliberate, guests are asked to please be brief and succinct, and do not repeat points that are made by others. Please allow student, faculty and administrators to be heard. Senators can ask questions, but should not make comments as they will be able to talk in closed session.

The following individuals spoke to the group assembled:

Ms. Margaret Steele, a graduate student in Philosophy expressed her shame at the decision, and noted that it is a threat to academic freedom. She urged the Senate to hold Father Wild accountable.

Mr. Ricardo Patron, a student asked that the university affirm its non-discrimination policy and academic freedom.
Dr. Steve Franzoi, Professor of Psychology, served on the Dean Search Committee noted that the search committee was diligent, giving proper guidance and warning, and believes that two very qualified candidates were put forward.

Dr. Nancy Snow, Professor of Philosophy, explained her role in hosting Dr. O’Brien and her partner in their visit to Milwaukee following the job offer. She opined that the Provost has always been supportive of the candidate, and called upon the Senate to send a strong and unequivocal message to the President that this type of discrimination will not be tolerated.

Dr. Connie Bauer, Associate Professor of Marketing has been tracking the issue online. She noted that Marquette had 13 pages of tweets, and newspaper articles in the New York Times and Chronicle of Higher Education, all of which were negative.

Dr. Jodi Melamed, Assistant Professor of English noted that this incident has threatened MU’s credibility, and rejected the notion that academic research can disqualify someone for leadership in the university. She urged the Senate to send a strong statement of faculty governance, and to reject any litmus test for leadership positions.

Dr. Tim McMahon, Associate Professor of History, reported that he was at a conference last weekend with national and international attendance. He got a lot of questions about discrimination at MU. He noted that blaming the search committee incorrectly undermines faculty governance.

Dr. Michael Politano, Associate Professor of Physics and faculty advisor to the Gay-Straight Alliance opined that a statement from the Board of Trustees, reaffirming the non-discrimination policy and commitment to academic freedom is required to mitigate the reputational damage to the university.

Dr. Paula Papanek, Associate Professor of Exercise Science, opined that the faculty lost its voice, and requested full disclosure of the reason this action was taken.

Dr. Bob Fitts, Professor of Biological Sciences called upon the UAS to ask Father Wild to explain who influenced the decision that led to rescinding the contract.

Dr. Sarah Gendron, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages, voiced her opposition to the decision.

Dr. Ed. de St. Aubin, Professor of Psychology expressed his alarm, wondering how many assistant professors are now afraid, and how many students won’t come to Marquette as a result of this decision.

Dr. Steve Engel, Assistant Professor of Political Science noted that his research focuses on constitutional developments around the issue of social movements for gay and lesbian rights. When he interviewed at MU he asked whether his research agenda would conflict with the Jesuit Catholic mission of the university, and was told no. This factored strongly into his choice while deciding among multiple job offers. He opined that this decision puts his ability to be tenured here in jeopardy.

The senate went into executive session at 3:41 pm.
Executive session ended at 5:41 pm and all guests who remained were invited back into the room. Professor Fallone informed the gathering of the resolution which the Academic Senate passed.

RESOLVED:
We, the University Academic Senate

Reaffirm our strong support for the official non-discrimination statement of Marquette University;

Express our approval of and support for the work of the A&S Dean Search Committee;

Condemn both the process and decision to rescind an extended offer, and we express our regret for the immense harm that this has caused to Dr. O’Brien, our fellow faculty, staff, students and alumni;

Request that Father Wild & Darren Jackson, Chair of the Board of Trustees, meet with the UAS at some time prior to the September 2010 Board of Trustees Meeting to discuss Marquette’s commitment to both academic freedom and shared governance;

Demand adoption of a revised search protocol that clearly affirms academic freedom and no disqualification from leadership positions for candidates pursuing legitimate lines of academic inquiry professionally recognized in their discipline;

Condemn the lack of transparency in sharing the reasons for the decision; and

Recommend that the UAS evaluate whether there has been demonstrable progress in achieving these objectives when considering whether to entertain a vote of no confidence in the President in fall 2010.

Approved May 10, 2010

Dr. Chris Krueger was elected chair of the UAS for 2010-11.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm.