2016-09-13 minutes for Faculty Council meeting

Present: Dawn Smith, Katie Berg, Darren Wheelock, Kurt Gering, Said Audi, Valerie Beech, Marilynn Frenn, Alan Burkard, Arndt Guentsch

**Upcoming charges:**
We’re waiting for formal charges to come from UAS, but here are some things that are likely in the pipeline:

- Lengthening the terms of office for UAS officers, especially chair and vice-chair. Evaluating options and making a recommendation.
- Full-time participating faculty:
  - Can the list of 13 different titles, classes of participating faculty be condensed? Especially since Engineering has now proposed a 13th, professor of practice. (See list on pages 24-25 of the Faculty Handbook, [http://www.marquette.edu/provost/documents/faculty-handbook.pdf](http://www.marquette.edu/provost/documents/faculty-handbook.pdf))
  - Contracts: could these also be more standardized; too many variations at the moment. E.g. 1-year contract for 1st 3 years, only then offered a 3-year contract; 1 semester only contracts, etc.
  - Anticipate push-back on these issues from some colleges.
- Part-time faculty: providing a forum, or some other venue, or medium, for them to get together and/or communicate. This is hold-over business from previous years. A recent retiree (Dan Maguire, spelling unknown) was the primary driver, wanting first to unionize, then for this.
- Spring faculty forum: planning it.

**Faculty council roles & responsibilities:** Kurt pulled out the faculty handbook, and we reviewed it. Three main charges in handbook (summarized below), each with lists of responsibilities:

1. Monitor academic governance issues. Discussion:
   - MF suggested that pursuing “strategies for enhancement” of shared governance should be a major pursuit. Too often, it’s the same people involved over and over. How can we persuade more people to participate? Problems: history of hierarchical governance in the university, and low expectations; un-tenured faculty are discouraged from participating in order to focus on research/teaching, which perhaps gives them that habit of ignoring it.
   - Ignorance among faculty as to what bodies to approach for different types of issues, concerns. Are there measures we could take to introduce the FC to faculty? At college-wide or department meetings?
   - DW pointed out that in his four years on the council, there has never been any interaction with the Provost. Perhaps this is something that we should pursue?

2. Long-range planning and vision of university. Discussion:
   - Could, should FC be involved in interview process for candidates for upper administrative positions? E.g. operations chief?

3. Faculty welfare. Discussion:
   - Not clear what body is now charged with overseeing the issues, especially health insurance. A Joint Committee on Employee Welfare was mentioned, but Kurt reports that after checking with the Office of the Provost, Human Resources and prior Faculty Council members, no one is aware of such a group. **A motion should be made to redact this language.**

**FC Membership:**
- Voting: a simple majority only is required for a quorum to vote.
• Normally 12 members, but one person is on sabbatical, and will need to be replaced. Others missing?
• Executive committee of FC: Kurt (chair), Dawn (vice-chair), Valerie (secretary)
• 1 course buy-out for chair. Since the role of the voce-chair has been diminished, it was suggested that the one course buyout should go to the Chair of Faculty Council.
• FC Chair will be ex officio on UAS in future. Kurt is a member of UAS now, because he was elected separately.

**What is shared governance?** Article to read: