Faculty Council

Annual Report – May 6, 2013

1. **Committee Description**: The Faculty Council monitors academic governance issues, provides a forum for discussing and vetting matters of immediate academic and professional importance, and draws upon the collective experience and knowledge of the faculty as a consultative body for the Senate.

2. **Committee Membership**: Lea Acord (chairperson), Eugenia Afinoguenova, Jose Bosio, Patricia Cervenka, Sharon Chubbuck, Kim Factor, James Marten, Barbara Silver-Thorn, Bharatendu Srivastava, Dawn Smith, Alex Stewart, Kerry Egdorf (ex-officio)

3. **Committee Meetings**: The Committee met seven times during the 2012-13 Academic Year

4. **UAS Charge to Committee**: The following list reflect the Goals of the Committee that were determined in AY 2011 - 12 by the previous FC and our work in AY 2012 -13 in response to the Goals:

   a. **Maintain communication with the Vice-Provost regarding shared governance in preparation for the HLC site visit**
      i. Met with Provost in Faculty Council meeting (see February 27 meeting notes)
      ii. Provided feedback to Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Review Team regarding shared governance
      iii. Sent two Faculty Council representatives to the HLC Open Forum where shared governance was being discussed

   b. **Monitor University Budget Committee**
      i. Faculty Council representative spoke with Dan Blinka, University Academic Senate (UAS) representative on the University Budget Committee (UBC) to determine how faculty input is considered in the UBC and determined the level of feedback increased from past
      ii. Discussed faculty role on UBC with Provost (See February 27 meeting notes)

   c. **Schedule a date for a faculty forum in the Spring with the President**.
      i. Faculty Forum held Nov 27 - moved from Spring based on Fr. Pilarz request
      ii. Questions for the Forum formulated around strategic planning themes, the resources to support them, and implementation processes.
      iii. Questions from faculty were elicited through e-mail and then included in the second half of the Forum

   d. **Find out how new administrative hires fit into new strategic plan**
      i. Discussed with Provost (see February 27 meeting notes)
      ii. Learned that there is nothing definitive since strategic plan in process
      iii. Dean’s search protocol is now codified and was used in A&S search 2012-2013.

   e. **Find out how faculty lines become allocated in case of a retirement or other scenarios.**
      i. Discussed with Provost (See February 27 meeting notes)
ii. Jesuit hires protected whenever possible
iii. No uniform process
iv. Faculty Council expressed need for transparency of protocol and criteria for decisions of this nature with the Provost.

5. Besides the work on the Goals, Faculty Council gave significant input regarding shared governance (Preamble and Article I) into the review and revisions of the UAS Statutes. Faculty Council also increased the responsibilities of the Faculty Council in the new Statutes draft. Two members of the Faculty Council were also members of the UAS Statutes Revision Task Force and facilitated work between the two groups.

6. Faculty Council Goals for 2013-14
   a. Identify and/or establish timeline and protocol for UAS elections and committee appointments—including asking chair of the Committee on Committee Elections to attend fall meeting to discuss and coordinate election process.
   b. Establish and monitor formal procedures for faculty involvement in academic and administrative decisions affecting the faculty and fulfilling the University mission.
   c. Schedule and coordinate the faculty forum with the President
   d. Participate in HLC visit and review HLC findings.
   e. Fulfill revised statute responsibilities, if approved.