MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY
University Academic Senate Minutes
May 6, 2019
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.
AMU, Ballrooms CD

Members in attendance: Dr. Allison Abbott, Dr. Kimo Ah Yun, Ms. Katie Blank, Ms. Rebecca Blemberg, Mr. Bruce Boyden, Dr. Joshua Burns, Dr. Sumana Chattopadhyay, Mr. Michael Danduran, Dr. Joseph Domblesky, Dr. Valerie Everard-Gigot, Dr. Kim Factor, Dr. Sarah Feldner, Dr. Marilyn Frenn, Dr. Ana Garner, Mr. Kurt Gering, Dr. Todd Hernandez, Dr. Javier Ibanez-Noe, Dr. Yasser Khaled, Dr. Chima Korieh, Mr. Patrick Loftis, Dr. Cheryl Maranto, Dr. Tim Melchert, Dr. Michelle Mynlieff, Dr. Paul Nolette, Dr. Lars Olson, Mr. David Papke, Dr. Madeline Schmidt, Dr. John Su, Dr. A. Jay Wagner, Dr. Doris Walker-Dalhouse, Dr. Jennica Webster, Mrs. Janice Welburn, Ms. Mary Jo Wiemiller, Dr. Susan Wood

Members excused: Ms. Ashlie Benson, Mr. Dan Brophy, Dr. Michael Donoghue, Dr. Arndt Guentsch, Dr. William Lobb, Dr. Doug Woods

Members not present: Dr. Heather Hathaway, Dr. Rick Holz, Mr. Michael Odden

Guests: Dr. Sharon Chubbuck, Dr. Kerry Egdorf, Dr. Tyler Farrell, Ms. Jessica Franken, Mr. Chris Gooding, Ms. Jenna Green Azab, Mr. Sam Harshner, Ms. Katelynn Hennicke, Ms. Lisa Lamson, Dr. Cindy Petrites, Ms. Lynn Sheka, Ms. Natalie St. Onge, Mr. Adam Stout, Dr. Lisa Thiemann, Mr. Brian Troyer, Dr. Amber Wichowsky

I. Call to Order by Dr. Michelle Mynlieff at 3:02 pm.

II. Reflection was given by Dr. Kim Factor.

III. Approval of April 15, 2019 minutes
   o Motion to approve: Dr. Timothy Melchert
   o Second: Dr. Jennica Webster
   o Passed by voice vote, one abstention.

IV. Chair’s Report – Dr. Michelle Mynlieff
   o Welcome to new Senators and UAS leadership.
   o Met with the Board of Trustees Committee on Academic Excellence last week. Gave an overview of what’s in progress and faculty concerns. Committee re-emphasized their commitment to the faculty and are passionate about diversity on campus.
   o There are a number of committees that we have not heard from (including the Professional Conduct Committee, Grievances Committee, and Spousal Hires Committee).
   o Concerned about a lack of representation from visiting faculty on Academic Senate. There had been a part-time committee at one point that was eventually disbanded. Need to re-activate it.
   o Many concerns about the wellness portal, Virgin Pulse; Senate hopes this can be addressed by new Vice President of Human Resources.

V. Vice Chair’s Report – Dr. Sumana Chattopadhyay
   o Report on Faculty Forum
     • Attendance was better than last year, but conflicted with an Arts and Sciences event.
   o Faculty Council will continue working on unfinished business.

VI. Secretary’s Report – Mr. Bruce Boyden
   o Election Update
     • Dr. Sumana Chattopadhyay was elected Chair.
     • Dr. Yasser Khaled was elected Vice-Chair.
     • Mr. Bruce Boyden was elected to serve another term as Secretary.
     • Dr. Michelle Mynlieff and Dr. Joshua Burns were elected to the Executive Committee.
     • Dr. Allison Abbott was elected as the Senate’s Liaison to UBUS.
     • Dr. Lars Olson was elected as the Senate’s Liaison to UBGS.
   o Thank you to Dr. Michelle Mynlieff for her leadership this past year.
VII. Provost’s Report – Dr. Kimo Ah Yun, Acting Provost

- Status of searches
  - Chief Information Officer: Search Committee will begin reviewing the pool of applicants with a goal of conducting off-campus interviews at the end of May; hope is to hire by fall.
  - VP Finance: Search Committee concluding offsite interviews and expects to bring finalists to campus in mid-May.
  - Provost: Isaacson, Miller and search committee will utilize feedback from listening sessions and online submissions to develop Opportunity and Challenge Profile. Isaacson, Miller will use Opportunity and Challenge Profile to recruit candidates this summer.
  - VP Mission and Ministry: Listening sessions have just concluded. Search committee is now developing the Opportunity and Challenge Profile; hope is to hire by fall.
  - Deans of A&S and CoBA: Isaacson, Miller and search committees will utilize feedback from listening sessions and online submissions to develop Opportunity and Challenge Profiles. Timetable for College of Business search is ahead of Arts & Sciences search, with plans for the search to be concluded by December and an offer by the end of the year.

- Enrollment
  - Goal is 2077; as of Monday afternoon, 5/6/2019, are at 1999.
  - Very difficult year in getting students. Other universities are offering more financial aid to students. Marquette chose not to pursue this course of action in order to stay on budget. We still have options with transfer students.

VIII. Presentation on Test-Optional Admissions Policy – Mr. Brian Troyer, Dean of Undergraduate Admissions

- Marquette will become test-optional, offering domestic and international applicants the choice to include standardized test scores as part of their application. This policy is effective immediately for students applying for entry in Fall 2020. Decision is supported by university stakeholders and guided by Marquette University’s mission statement, which calls us to “keep a Marquette education accessible to a diverse population of students.”
- Marquette University joins a small group of top 100 national universities (US News and World Report Best Colleges) that have dropped the ACT or SAT as a requirement for admission. Four years of strong performance in rigorous high school coursework has always been the most important measure in Marquette's holistic admission review. External research and our own internal analysis have shown that a student’s overall high school record is the best predictor of a student’s college success at Marquette. Despite our best efforts to emphasize high school performance and other elements of the college application process over standardized test scores, we know many outstanding applicants choose not to apply to MU because they feel their standardized test score will prevent them from earning admission. Requiring standardized tests in our admission review was never intended to exclude individuals from applying that otherwise felt they have the cognitive and non-cognitive capacities to succeed at Marquette. We acknowledge, however, that requiring the SAT or ACT may have led to this unintended consequence and are hopeful becoming test-optional will level the playing field for students that do not wish to be defined by a test score.
- University of Chicago and Creighton University just announced their intentions to apply a test-optional admissions policy.
- Holistic approach will be given to the review of applications, which will measure life’s distance traveled for each student.
- We expect to see an increase in the amount of eligible applications.

IX. University Board of Undergraduate Studies – Dr. John Su, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Informed on decision: Endorsement of Test-Optional Admissions Policy

- Dr. Su, on behalf of the University Board of Undergraduate Studies, enthusiastically endorses the Test Optional Admissions Policy. With 2019 marking the 50-year anniversary of the Educational Opportunity Program, this is a particularly timely moment to endorse this policy.
- Dr. Joshua Burns moved that Senate endorse the Test Optional Admissions Policy; seconded by Mr. Patrick Loftis. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.
X. Proposed Statement on Faculty Unionization Efforts – Dr. Michelle Mynlieff, Chair
   o The Senate amended the statement proposed at the previous meeting to read:
     • “The University Academic Senate supports the efforts of all faculty and students, including non-tenure-track faculty and graduate students, to make their concerns known and seek ways of addressing them. However, the Senate takes no position on whether unionization would be a productive way to accomplish that goal. In keeping with Catholic social teachings, the University Academic Senate also asks that the president and our university administration refrain from sending emails either discouraging or encouraging unionization. Our non-tenure track faculty colleagues should be allowed to freely and fairly decide on unionization without coercion in either direction. The University Academic Senate is pleased that Dr. Kimo Ah Yun recently communicated with the university that Marquette will recognize Marquette’s non-tenure track faculty union if they should win an election or hit majority support. In keeping with Catholic social teachings, the Senate calls on the administration to bargain a fair contract in good faith if our non-tenure track colleagues proceed with unionization.”
   o The Senate reiterates its call for administration to bargain in good faith if our non-tenure-track colleagues proceed with unionization.
   o Discussion/Questions:
     • A member of the group that is organizing for unionization asked if the administration would allow the non-tenure-track faculty and graduate assistants to decide for themselves on the possibility of unionization.
     • Does the Senate have an obligation to respond to union organizers? A. The proposed statement is an indication of neutrality for the Senate.
     • Union organizers stated that they are not looking for an endorsement from the Senate; they are asking for support for a democratic process and for disclosure of the university’s intentions.
     • Dr. Ah Yun stated that the university is committed to a fair process as outlined by federal law. The university will be assembling a task force that will explore the challenges facing our participating faculty members.
   o Motion to approve Statement on Faculty Unionization efforts: Passed by voice vote with eight abstentions.

XI. Committee Annual Reports (Executive Summaries)
Committee annual reports are available on the Office of the Provost website under Academic Senate: http://www.marquette.edu/academicsenate/annual-reports.shtml

   a. Faculty Council, Dr. Darren Wheelock, Chair
   b. Board of Student Media, Dr. Erik Ugland, Chair
   c. Committee on Academic Technology, Dr. Lisa Thiemann, Chair
   d. Committee on Committees and Elections, Mr. Chester Loeffler-Bell, Chair
   e. Committee on Research, Dr. Paul Gasser, Chair
   f. Committee on Teaching, Dr. Laurieann Klockow, Chair
   g. Committee on Diversity and Equity, Mr. Joshua Knox, Chair
   h. University Assessment Committee. Dr. Nick Curtis, Chair
   i. University Board of Graduate Studies, Dr. Sharon Chubbuck, Chair
   j. University Board of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Jill Guttormson, Chair
   k. University Library Board, Dr. Deirdre Dempsey and Mr. Doug Smith, Co-Chairs

XII. Presentation by Dr. Maura Donovan, Vice President for Corporate Engagement
   o The university spent more than a year looking at processes and issues related to corporate engagement before deciding to create a separate office.
   o Dr. Donovan assumed her role three months ago and shared some initial observations: unclear processes are creating confusion, comprehensive internal data is difficult to obtain, and there is considerable interest in Marquette’s corporate engagement vision.
   o The office’s objectives are to enhance, streamline, and communicate Marquette’s processes to support corporate engagement; to pursue collaborations and alliances with a portfolio of corporations in the greater Milwaukee region; and to develop a national strategy to expand Marquette’s engagement portfolio.
The office has assembled a Council for Corporate Engagement, comprised of twenty-four members from the Marquette community, as well as an External Advisory Board, comprised of ten external organizations.

XIII. Dr. Jennica Webster acknowledged and thanked Cheryl Maranto for her contributions to the Senate and the university.

XIV. Adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

- Motion to adjourn: Dr. Sumana Chattopadhyay
- Second: Ms. Janice Welburn
- Passed by voice vote

Respectfully submitted,
Mr. Bruce Boyden
UAS Secretary

The next meeting will be Monday, August 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in AMU Ballroom CD.