Faculty Senate Minutes
September 3, 2015

1. **Call to order**

Dan Bunker called the meeting to order at 11:35 AM, and he welcomed the senate members to a new year, and the members were introduced.

2. **Roll Call**

The following voting members were present: W. Barnes, D. Blackmore, A. Bose, D. Bunker, Y. Ding, A. Zarzycki, I. Gatley, W. Hunter, Q. Jones, A. Klobucar, J. McHugh, E. Michalopoulou, Z. Qiu, A. Rosato, A. Saadeghvaziri, A. Schuman, R. Sher, L. Simon, R. Sodhi, A. Sohn, A. Zarzycki

The following non-voting members were present: K. Belfield, S. Brito, C. Fey, R. Caudill, M. Kam, G. Mass, K. Passerini, K. Riismandel, R. Sweeney, D. Ullman, and John Vito d'Antoino-Bertagnolli.

3. **Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting**

The minutes from the April 30, 2015 meeting were approved.

4. **Election of the President of Faculty Senate for AY2015-2016**

Richard Sher was elected President of the Faculty Senate.

5. **President's Opening Remarks**

Richard Sher gave opening remarks on various issues:

- Amit Bose was thanked for the outstanding job he did as the first President of the Faculty Senate in AY2015–16. Those who served on committees and in other capacities were also thanked.
- Vice President Bunker will be the point person for all standing committees and will coordinate technology for presentations at Faculty Senate meetings.
- The members of the Executive Committee are Richard Sher, Dan Bunker, Eliza Michalopoulou, Tony Rosato, and Ala Saadeghvaziri.
- John Bechtold having become the new Associate Dean of the Honors College, Wooyoung Choi of the Math Sciences Department has been nominated to replace him on the University Promotion and Tenure Committee.

6. **Old Business: Update by the Immediate Past President**

Amit Bose reported on the following developments since the last meeting of the Faculty Senate in the spring:

Faculty Handbook: in July the Board of Trustees approved all the changes to the Faculty Handbook that were approved by the Faculty last May except the section on the search procedure for a President of the University. The Board will draft the language on the search procedure for new University Presidents.

Facilities: the research committee is working on the problem of inadequate labs and other facilities on the campus.

IT Department: Amit will be producing a report on a proposal for the establishment of a new IT Department that was submitted to Faculty Senate last April.

2020 Vision: a steering committee has been established, chaired by the Provost and co-chaired by the President of the Faculty Senate.

Undergraduate Admission Standards, Course Scheduling, and other matters having to do with the relationship between academic affairs and support services: Amit suggested that the Faculty Senate should consider whether the Registrar, Admissions, and Advising should report directly to the Provost office (appropriately staffed) rather than to the office of the VP for Academic Support and Student Affairs.

7. **Action Items**
   Two Proposed Amendments to the Faculty Senate Bylaws:

   1. <u>Quorum at Faculty Meetings</u>: A motion to restore the 20 percent quorum of the voting membership at Faculty Meetings was passed by a vote of 17 to 3.

   2. <u>Procedure for adding new members to Faculty Senate standing committees and their subcommittees</u>. A motion to establish procedures for adding new members to standing committees and their subcommittees was passed unanimously.

   As these proposed amendments were circulated to the Faculty Senate membership ten business days before this meeting and passed by more than 2/3 of the members who cast votes, they will be sent to the Provost and then brought to the Board of Trustees by the President for final consideration.

   Two Proposed Changes to the Faculty Handbook:

   1. <u>Clarify the Administrators who are Voting Members at Meetings of the Faculty</u>: A motion to approve revised language was passed unanimously.

   2. <u>Grant the Deans the Opportunity to Register their Vote in P&T Decisions</u>: A motion to approve revised language was passed unanimously.

   Policies and Procedures regarding Teaching
   The Faculty Senate reviewed a revised section that it passed last spring and agreed to leave it unchanged.

8. **Projected Timeline for Faculty Handbook Revisions**
   Richard Sher presented the projected timeline for completing revisions to the Faculty Handbook during AY2015–16.

9. **Faculty Senate Standing Committees**
   Dan Bunker reviewed the Standing Committees, which are listed on the Faculty Senate web page. He announced that he and Richard Sher will be making appointments to the committees as soon as possible. The chairs of CUE and CGE have been asked about ways to streamline the approval process, and their proposals will be discussed at a future meeting of Faculty Senate.

10. **Other Business**
    Tony Schuman reported that the PSA merit evaluations from 2013–2014 are in negotiation. PSA and the administration are working on a faculty retirement package. Richard Sher stated that he hopes the Faculty Senate will have closer relations with PSA.

11. The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.