Faculty Assembly
November 10, 2015

Report of the Faculty Senate

Charles A. Garris, Jr. Chair
Faculty Senate Executive Committee

1. On behalf of the Faculty Senate, I am delighted to extend to all present our warm welcome. I take special pleasure in welcoming new faculty and informing them about the Faculty Senate and inviting them to participate in our work. The Faculty Senate is very active this year. Our Senate Committees do the heavy lifting. I am happy to report that we have very strong committees with an abundance of dedicated faculty. As a result, the Faculty Senate has accomplished a lot and we expect to accomplish much more by the end of the academic year.

2. Sad News – Passing of Linda Sue Campbell.
   a. Sue Passed away at GW Hospital on June 3, 2015.
   b. Sue ran the Senate administration for over 20 years and had been at GW for nearly 40 years. Her wisdom, her capacity for hard work, her concern for the details of process, committee structure and formation and her deep roots in the university community make her irreplaceable.
   c. The Faculty Senate deeply appreciates her many contributions over the years and will sorely miss her, and we will remember her.
   d. Provost Steven and Lori Lerman hosted a memorial reception in her honor on October 9 where there was much testimony to her many contributions to the Faculty Senate and to GW.

3. The Senate has not as yet obtained a new Senate Coordinator but hopes to complete its search soon. In the meantime, the Provost’s Office has helped us by giving us the services of Jennifer Siecks, Cassandra Wiseman, and Jackie Akyea who have done their very best to help us with the administrative tasks of the Senate.

4. General Comment on Governance: A good part of our activities this year have been dedicated to Faculty Governance. The Executive Committee with the heavy support of PEAf and ASPP has interacted extensively with the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees and has had very productive and robust discussions on the recommendations of the Governance Working Groups and the recommendations embodied in Faculty Senate resolutions 16/1, 16/2, 16/3, and 16/4. After the Board met on June 18 and 19 and passed its three resolutions, the Executive Committee prepared a detailed mailing to the Faculty on July 15 which included the Board’s resolutions, a spreadsheet comparing the 2004 Faculty Code, the amended provisions of the Faculty Code approved by the Board, and the Senate resolutions. To facilitate identifying
variations, key segments of the various documents were highlighted and comments by the Executive Committee were included. A cover letter was provided to assist in understanding the results of the changes and which emphasized that we have engaged in a highly collaborative process that has resulted in improvements in our shared governance system. However, as has been stated by Chair Carbonell, we are in a new era where the Board actively engages with the Faculty and Administration in a manner that is new to GW.

5. **RESOLUTIONS:**

   a. **A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE AMENDMENTS TO THE COPYRIGHT POLICY OF GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY ;** (14/3);Presented by PEAF, Passed Unanimously.
   
   b. **RESOLUTION TO ADDRESS THE BURDEN PLACED ON CURRENT UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES WITH REGARD TO PROPOSED CHANGES IN TUITION BENEFITS.(14/4)** Passed Unanimously.
   
   c. **A RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE A REVISED EDITION OF THE FACULTY HANDBOOK OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON;** (15/1);passed unanimously.
   
   d. **A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT AN “OPEN ACCESS” POLICY FOR RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY(15/2);** Passed by a vote of 12 in favor, 11 opposed.
   
   e. **A RESOLUTION ON RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY CODE WITH RESPECT TO DEAN SEARCHES AND REVIEWS (16/1); PEAF; passed by large margin.**
   
   f. **A RESOLUTION ON RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY CODE WITH RESPECT TO SCHOOL FACULTY COMPOSITION AND GOVERNANCE (16/2);PEAF;passed by large margin.**
   
   g. **A RESOLUTION ON RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY CODE WITH RESPECT TO SCHOOL FACULTY COMPOSITION AND GOVERNANCE (16/2); PEAF;** Passed by large margin;
   
   h. **A RESOLUTION ON RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE FACULTY ORGANIZATION PLAN REGARDING FACULTY PARTICIPATION IN THE FACULTY SENATE (16/4); PEAF;** Passed by large margin;
   
   i. **RESOLUTION TO IMPROVE FACULTY BENEFITS (16/5); ASPP; Passed unanimously.**

6. **REPORTS**

   a. Report on Corcoran School by Dean Vinson (10/10/2014);
   
   b. Report of the George Washington University Faculty Association (GWUFA)(10/10/2014);
   
   c. Report on BOT Working Groups on Faculty Governance by Dr. Madeleine Jacobs(11/14/2014)
d. Report on Employee Benefits; FP&B & ASPP Joint Task Force, Prof. J. Cordes; (11/14/2014)

e. Report on Funding SEH(11/14/2014); Provost Lerman.


g. Report on SEH (12/12/2014); Vice Provost F. Maltzman.

h. Annual Report on Research (1/9/2015); Vice President L. Chalupa.

i. Report on Technology Transfer (1/9/2015); Director of Tech Trans. S. Kubisen.

j. Report on Financial Health of GWU (1/9/2015); FP&B; Prof. J. Cordes.

k. Update on Sustainability Initiatives Dr. Kathleen Merrigan, Executive Director of Sustainability. (2/13/2015)

l. Update of Faculty Governance Review Process; Prof. C. Garris. (3/20/2015);

m. Annual Report on Core Indicators of Academic Excellence, Provost Lerman; (3/20/2015)


o. Faculty Governance – Discussion with Chair N. Carbonell and M. Jacobs. (4/10/2015)

p. Report of the Board of Trustees Activities on Faculty Governance (Chair Nelson Carbonell) (9/11/2015).

q. Report on Executive Committee Activities on Faculty Governance (Professor Garris) (9/11/2015).

r. Status of Health Care Benefits; report on developments since the May 8 Senate meeting and Open Enrollment for Fall 2015 (Vice President Sabrina Ellis). (9/11/2015).


7. Non-Concurrences

   a. There were two nonconcurrences from the Columbian College of Arts & Sciences. Since the Board did not change the mechanisms described in the Faculty Code charging the Executive Committee with administering nonconcurrences, the Executive Committee proceeded as always. However, the nonconcurrences went much more smoothly this year since the dean had the benefit of the templates for nonconcurrence that the Executive Committee created last year in collaboration with the Provost. As a result, the compelling reasons for nonconcurrence were clearly articulated and commensurate with Faculty Senate Resolution 03/10. The recommendations of the Executive Committee supported the dean in one case, and provided an alternative means of resolving the issue in the other case. In both cases, the actions taken by the Administration were supported by the Executive Committee recommendations.

8. Grievances
a. There are currently three grievances. One in the School of Engineering and Applied Science, one in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, and one in the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. All are in the mediation stage.

9. ONGOING ACTIVITIES
      i. Benefits Advisory Task Force (Long term report due in November)
   b. Conflict of interest policy.
   c. Development of new patent policy.
   d. Faculty Governance.
      i. Considering proposals for formalized mechanisms for amending the Faculty Code with possible upcoming resolution.
   e. Monitoring Open Access Policy.

10. Upcoming Reports
   a. December:
      i. Dean Livingstone – Vision and Status of School of Business
      ii. Patrick Nero – Status of GW Athletic Programs
      iii. Prof. J. Cordes – FP&B Financial Status of GW
   b. January:
      i. Vice Provost Berman: Status Report on On-Line Education Programs.
      ii. Vice Provost D. Shaw: Status Report on GW International Programs.
   c. February:
      i. Dr. Aristede Collins: Report on Development at GW

11. SENATE COMMITTEES
   A. GW has a wonderful tradition of shared governance between faculty and administration. The Faculty Senate contributes to this process through its standing committees. The stronger our committees, the more useful and credible our advice will be in the shared governance process. The better the contributions to the welfare of the university, the more exciting work on our committees will be, further engendering faculty participation. I would like to emphasize that our standing committees are open to both Regular Faculty and Specialized Faculty alike. Please join – we need faculty who are willing to contribute. A list of committees is included in the Senate website. Please contact me or one of your Senators if you would like to join.

This is a very exciting year to be in the Faculty Senate. We are looking forward to a productive year.