

The meeting of the 2016-2017 Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by President Nancy Reincke. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Dan Alexander, Klaus Bartschat, Maria Clapham, David Courard-Hauri, Renee Cramer, Debra DeLaet, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, Bengu Erguner-Tekinalp, Royce Fichtner, Lourdes Gutierrez-Najera, Adina Klipatrick, Jerrid Kruse, Karen Leroux, Graydon McGrannahan, Craig Owens, Chuck Phillips, Dorothy Pisarski, Nancy Reincke, LouAnn Simpson, Darcie Vandegrift, Melissa Weresh, Craige Wrenn, and David Wright

Absent: Jennifer Harvey

The November minutes were accepted with corrections regarding Senator Fichtner's opening statement.

The meeting began with Deputy Provost Keith Summerville sharing Fall 2017 enrollment observations. He began by reminding the body of the May 1, 2016 application and yield count for Fall 2016. He indicated the numbers now for applications are similar to those numbers. The base budget goal is 850 entering first year undergraduate and pharmacy students. The number of individuals coming for campus visits is significantly better than last year. This is not higher than two years ago. As of now, the quality is basically at the same level with a marginal increase in non-white applicants, he said.

Mr. Summerville indicated the current high priority is the National Alumni Scholarship (NAS) and pre-pharmacy applicants. At this point, the new vendor's discounting strategy is working. A portion of their plan allows for more dollars to students in the lower ranges of funding. He thanked Darcie Vandegrift for helping host a Latino/Latina high school student event. Additional events are under development for 2017 such as bringing the NAACP Prep Day back to Drake.

Senator Phillips asked whether the name buys are all seniors. The reply was yes.

Senator Owens noted the genuine sense of optimism and therefore felt compelled to ask what are the weak points or issues which are concerning to Mr. Summerville. The reply was how the political ties throughout the national narrative, from either end of the spectrum, affect how Drake is perceived. There is a concern about the value of Drake vs cost concerns. He has been pleased by the Tuition Guarantee being well received in some geographic areas and yet noted there are geographic areas which are not 'buying' the large increase in tuition.

A question was asked about the Fall 2016 recruiting year being advertised as a more carefully targeted year yet the ultimate target was not met. The reply acknowledged the complicated question will need a complicated answer. The three applications routes were reduced last year and the targeting was focused on a certain financial need level.

It was noted the federal 2017-2018 FAFSA opened in the fall semester rather than in January. The impact has not been fully realized by Drake or other institutions. The Fall 2017 financial aid packages are expected to "drop in the mail" in mid-December rather than in March as in the past.

The metrics names and metrics from any additional recruitment activities on campus are being cross referenced with yield information. When asked, Mr. Summerville did not have specific gender or race/ethnicity data to share.

Senator Kruse asked for news concerning graduate admission. The answer is that while Mr. Summerville is working with the School of Education and College of Business & Public Administration, the effort is within those units. He could share that effort is being spent on looking to get an identifiable brand entity and exploring delivery modes which would bring the educational experience into student homes and their work places.

President Martin Report:

President Martin reminded senators of the various efforts current underway to rebook the Campus Master Plan. There have been a series of on campus visits from space consultants and architects. An update will be presented to the Board of Trustees (BOT) at their January meeting. The buildings and spaces under discussion include: Theatre department spaces, Hubbell Dining and Olmsted, Meredith Hall and Olin Hall.

The fiscal year 2018 budget (a broad outline) will be presented to the BOT in January and December 15th to the campus community. BOT Chair David Golder is expected to be on campus for that meeting with the express purpose of listening to

the faculty and staff reaction. The proposed budget is built on a base of 850 entering full time first year students. President Martin noted this number does not move us “off the spot totally” yet is a positive move. He as presented the Tuition Commitment in multiple communication presentations and it is going well.

President Martin reminded the body of the December 17th Commencement and hoped many would be attending.

Senator Owens asked if there is a shadow budget built upon a lower number of entering first year students such as 775. The reply was there is a contingency yet not one developed from such a low number.

Senator Vandegrift offered her appreciation for the concrete email offered supporting undocumented students and asked what response has there been. The reply was there has been a mixed reception of positive, negative and hesitant. He has worked to engage individuals in personal conversations and has felt all of those conversations have ended well.

Senator Alexander asked if some conversations were with donors who wished to support Drake’s efforts. The reply was yes. Senator Phillips noted the recent public notices of athletic personnel changes. He specifically asked if there a lawsuit is expected. President Martin responded to the athletic trainer case first. He noted he could not say much but assured the group the circumstance was handled with great respect. Drake was in a position where he could not retain his position. President Martin was confident that when Drake’s brief is received, our side will be well received. As to the basketball coach stepping down, the reply was it was that individual’s option. He noted it was a reflection of the coach’s high character and the parting is not based on animosity. The timing of his resignation will give the institution a long time to look and review candidates.

Finally he shared that leadership had long before these individual instances to have the January 2017 BOT meeting to have a focus on athletics. An NCAA representative is scheduled to join the meetings.

Provost Mattison Report:

Provost Mattison echoed Mr. Summerville in thanking everyone who plays a part in the admission events and meetings. Faculty participation is very important to the student and families.

She offered an update on the College of Business & Public Administration Dean’s search. The committee is reviewing applications. The Dean of Students position has been posted. There are two finalists for the Associate Provost for Equity & Inclusion who will be presenting to campus in early February. Also, Provost Mattison noted there are only 12 days left for the 60 day hold for the position of her administrative assistant. She indicated excitement to have that position filled.

The Provost continued by noting the issues and concern from the November Senate meeting. She, like President Martin, has had multiple campus and community contacts wanting to discuss Drake’s stance. She believed 80% of the conversations were positive to the stance. From those who have been on the negative side, she found the number of students being more than she expected. She knows she represented the entire faculty and I got the sense that the questions were more about the process during the meeting than the issues, yet after the meeting there was a sense of some persons believing that they were seen as roadblock and I do not believe they were or ever meant to be a roadblock. Every campus in country is dealing with these issues and she reaffirmed she is extremely proud of being at Drake. One example of Drake constructively using the moment was the panel about immigration rights and social justice created by the Law School. .

She closed by reminding senators of the social event on December 15th which will include Chief Financial Officer Teresa Krejci’s budget presentation.

President Reincke Report

Senator Owens gave an update regarding the work of the Ad Hoc Faculty Compensation Committee which he chairs. They have met and enjoyed support from Provost Mattison, her staff and Human Resources. The committee has three broad areas of focus: 1) equity concerns for groups such adjunct faculty and gender 2) faculty workload issues such as service load and contracts and 3) relationship of practices and policies including the Academic Charter. There are more possible issues of

concern which are not being “taken off the table” yet are not being dealt with at this time. He stated that at least two recommendations are expected to come to Senate from the committee during the Spring semester.

President Reincke gave a Senate Budget Committee report which began with her underscoring the importance of attending the December 15th presentation. The committee has had a discussion of the approach used to create the budget which, obviously, includes making choices. At this point, the budget does not include raises for employees although this is not “set in stone”. The fall 2017 enrollment numbers will be important for considerations toward any raises. President Reincke shared an idea of reviewing the usage, cost and maintenance of Blackboard as a possible unneeded expense. She wanted to know if this is a good place to spend Drake’s money. Senator Gutierrez-Najera noted she uses the tool heavily and would be cautions of alternative platforms. Concerns were raised of how faculty input gathered concerning shared goals and values as academic technology tools are considered. It was mentioned that currently the Chief Information Technology Officer does have four faculty based advisory groups and has met with some college specific technology advisory groups.

Senators Simpson and Phillips moved and seconded motion **17:06**:

Endorse the revision of the Drake Mission Explications submitted by the HLC COG #1 Working Group

Senator Owens offered some background information which brought this motion forward. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) will look to review is Drake has met the Mission and if the documents (Mission, Vision and corresponding documents) are up to date. Drake has had the current explication for ten years. This document attempts to articulate Drake’s current shared values and aspirations.

Senator Pisarski suggested an additional phrase to the document of “culturally sensitive awareness”. Senator Owens said he would that the suggestion to the Criterion One committee. Senator DeLaet asked what the lofty language and mapping will mean in practice. Senator Owens indicated he could not elaborate exactly what this will mean in practice rather it provides the University community to place themselves. He continued elaborating how the committee considered “why do we need this” and found there was a real use within various employee sectors. That is, as the committee moved the discussions further from the individuals providing direct teaching delivery, then the explication offered more meaning. Senator Owens called the mission statement a strange combination of both representational and aspirational texts.

Senator Clapham asked if it has been mapped to the Statement of Principles and if so, to what extent does it fit. The reply was that this document is a fit. Senator Owens referred to the Statement of Principles as more about the culture of the university and it is aligned with the mission. The Principles statement does not “reach out” to all employees as to how their work is included. Senator Dunham-LaGree found the format as an improvement and thanked all those involved for their work.

More than one senator expressed interest in more fully understanding how Drake’s leadership documents fit together and are used to shape decisions. The comments acknowledged there is a need for individual due diligence to read the documents and seek discussions concerning their use. These are living documents which deserve to be shared, discussed and not simply live on a shelf. There were several voices affirming interest in the institution having frequent open forums whether developed by Senate or Drake’s leadership.

With a voice vote the motion passed

Senator Owens offered to add to the HLC assurance documents that there is a desire to continue the culture of getting together for the purposes of having conversations surrounding the Mission and the supporting documents.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Secretary, Nancy Geiger