

President David Courard-Hauri called the regular meeting of the 2017-2018 Faculty Senate to order at 3:30 p.m. The following senators were present for all or part of the meeting: Dan Alexander, Klaus Bartschat, David Courard-Hauri, Renee Cramer, Debra De Laet, Carrie Dunham-LaGree, Bengu Erguner-Tekinalp, Jerry Honts, Teri Koch, Jerrid Kruse, Jennifer McCrickerd, Chip Miller, Craig Owens, Dorothy Pisarski, Chuck Phillips, Nancy Reincke, Mark Vitha, Melissa Weresh, David Wright

Absent: Lourdes Gutierrez-Najera

The September 2017 minutes were approved.

President Martin Report:

President Martin had three main points for Senators and guests. The Fall 2017 undergraduate entering first year student target number was not met. This reality caused more than one budget rebalancing action around campus between last Spring and ending soon. The Fall 2018 applications, even at this early point, are stronger than last year. The Fall 2018 first year student target number is 820 and there is work to be done to turn the inquiries into applicants and into registered students. President Martin stated at this point, “We are all admission officers”.

President Martin fielded several questions regarding undergraduate admissions. Such as:

- a) How was the Fall 2018 target number determined and are there contingencies included when this target is used in budgeting --Several years of past applicant funnel and yield data is reviewed. He stated it is as much an art as it is a science. Provost Mattison added each college and school is looked at individually. Concerning contingencies, both the President and Provost indicated the budget is set with conservative parameters.
- b) Will the discount rate be affected – The reply was yes with lots of conversation about the target and only a slight rise is expected.
- c) Is the undergraduate test flex program still in use – The reply was yes.
- d) Will a risk assessment to the quality of student admits be examined in order to met the admission target – President Martin stated there is “some play” concerning those factors yet mainly Drake is in a market of declining number of persons who are high school graduates moving directly to college. This is the second year of using five-quintile groups, which are still being balanced and defined. The need is to manage the discount rate, student academic qualities and overall discipline balance.
- e) Has the tuition guarantee had a positive impact – President Martin stated that yes, it did have a positive impact when looking at which institutions Drake lost students to (which were more public rather than private institutions). He stated the need is to show how there is value, which goes with the price, and he believes Drake has that value.
- f) How was first year retention – there was a slight percentage slippage. Provost Mattison reminded Senate that midterm grades are due soon, these are an important factor in helping students, and staff judge their progress.
- g) Regarding the students who leave, is there a known profile about the increase in students who left – Provost Mattison stated there was a higher than normal reasons for leaving which were disciplinary.
- h) Noting past salary increases have been tied to meeting the entering undergraduate class target, will there be any increases placed in the budget – President Martin indicated that savings through effective and efficient processes is still his main avenue for budget balancing. He noted it will be hard, yet emphasized there is not yet a definitive answer regarding any salary increase at this time.

Based on the lack of proper ventilation from the past major renovation, there are mold issues in the Quad residence halls. President Martin reported that various mediation efforts have not worked and a \$4-12 million-dollar fix will need to happen. He has instructed the work be taken care of over a summer. This money will not come from the operating budget nor does he want to borrow the funds, possibly using unrestricted net asset monies. The exact budget source is not yet known as the renovation costs are also not yet confirmed.

Finally, President Martin announced the annual United Way Campaign at Drake will begin on November 6th and end November 17th. Drake has been 2nd (behind the Des Moines Public Schools) in the Education sector which should be

seen as a point of pride for all faculty and staff. He stated the organization gives Drake a target goal and he is hopeful that we will make that goal. There is a website, which outlines the campaign and the incentive package.

Provost Mattison Report

Provost Mattison gave a quick update concerning the two active Dean searches. Three candidates are expected to come to campus for interviews for the Cowles Library position. The Arts & Sciences Dean Search Committee will hold Skype interviews next week.

President Courard-Hauri Report

The issue of Senate Unit representation is a current topic for the Senate Executive Committee. A report and/or recommendations will come to Senate within the next few meetings.

Sarah McCoy will begin as the Fine Arts Senator as of the November 2017 meeting.

President Courard-Hauri gave a brief report from the most recent Board of Trustees meeting. The plenary session topic was political diversity on campus. Both faculty and students spoke to the Trustees. He felt having the broad conversation about what is happening on campus helpful and hoped there could be more of the cross level conversations.

Concerning the current and future budget, President Courard-Hauri stated there is not a lot of good news and faculty need to be involved in this discussion going forward. He challenged the Senators to think about what are the priorities and have ideas for how faculty can play a proactive role in budgeting concerns. He welcomed ideas and concerns to be sent to him.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Senators Miller and McCrickerd moved and seconded motion 18:02: *vote on the Revised Drake Curriculum as proposed.*

Senator Robertson asked what effect a vote today would have on the upcoming Higher Learning Commission (HLC) visit. The reply was that it should not have any direct effect.

The procedural action was made and passed to table the motion. This was directly followed with actions to end the meeting.

The meeting ended at 5:02 p.m.