

University of Denver
Faculty Senate
Minutes
November 15, 2013
Anderson Academic Commons

Senators (or proxies) present: Shimelis Assefa, Jenny Bowers, Tess Bruce, Victor Castellani, Maclyn Clouse, Claude d’Estree, Ron De Lyser, Jack Donnelly, Russell Fielding (Proxy for Paul Sutton), Graham Foust, Jim Gilroy, Josh Hanan, Kim Hartnett-Edwards, John Hill, Tim Hurley (self), Tim Hurley (proxy for Scott Johns), Arthur Jones, Megan Kelly, Michelle Kruse-Crocker, Maciej Kumosa, Rick Leaman, Tiffani Lennon, Luis Leon, Marisa Lerer (proxy for Annabeth Headrick), Scott Leutenegger, Jeffrey Lin, Steven McDonald (proxy for Anne Penner), Erin Meyer, Gloria Miller, David Mindock, Julianne Mitchell, Keith Miller (proxy for Scott Pegan), Vi Narapareddy, Linda Olson, Pallab Paul, Erika Polson (self), Erika Polson (proxy for Rodney Buxton), Rebecca Powell, Martin Quigley, Allegra Reiber, Naomi Reshotko, Jeremy Reynolds, Paula Rhodes, Nancy Sampson, Kent Seidel, Jamie Shapiro, Amrik Singh, Geoff Stacks, Mary Steefel, Jing Sun, Ron Throupe, Robert Urquhart, Petr Vojtěchovsky (proxy for Frederic Latremoliere), Courtney Welton-Mitchell, and Melanie Witt.

Call to Order, Approval of Minutes

Scott Leutenegger, Senate President, called the meeting to order at noon.

A motion to approve the minutes from the October 25, 2013 Senate meeting was seconded and approved.

Scott announced that the savings from foregoing a traditional Thanksgiving lunch was donated to the Denver Rescue Mission and the Food Bank of the Rockies.

Provost’s Report—Gregg Kvistad

I was asked by the Executive Committee to comment on a few items.

APT Document—I have been reviewing the draft APT revision document. It is the most important document at DU governing faculty activities; it is very important to keep it up to date. Thanks to the faculty who have spent a lot of time to prepare the proposed revisions. The final APT document must be approved by the Board of Trustees. The BOT has always shown a lot of respect and deference to faculty regarding the APT document and I expect this to continue.

Teacher-Scholar Model—The traditional post World War II model was publishing, teaching, and service. The Chancellor is saddened by its decline as the prevailing national model and concerned about what this means for teaching and research. The fraction of faculty at DU that

are tenure-track has declined. Both the Chancellor and I wish this were different. Tenure-track faculty are very expensive and have a much lower teaching load than other appointed faculty. The draft APT revisions propose name changes and multi-year contracts for non-tenure-track faculty. Multi-year contracts are not common in higher education; most institutions prefer to maintain maximum flexibility. We do not intend to go to an all non-tenure-track faculty model. This would change DU in very significant ways and dramatically reduce or eliminate research, scholarship, and creative work.

If we had no budget issues, I would want enough financial aid so that no student has unmet need. Few understand how precious this is.

Highlights and Lowlights for the Year—The budget situation is good enough for 2 percent merit increases, \$1.5 million faculty salary enhancement, and \$1.5 million for one-time bonuses.

We did not meet enrollment goals in Law and Business. We know why and we know what to do about this, but we do not yet know whether this was cyclical or a non-recoverable downturn in the market.

We are trying to be more connected to events on campus and build a reputation of trust. After the Pioneer Passage event, a significant number of first years was sent to detox (we have a low bar). The Chancellor and I wrote them a letter explaining they had violated our trust agreement. A hideous message was written on a wall at one of the residence halls. The message did not reflect our values and the Chancellor wrote a letter about this to the students. I expect more of this type of higher administration visibility.

Responses to Questions

Question: What is next year's undergraduate enrollment target?—It will be about the same as this year. We have returned to about 5100 total undergraduate students and we expect to maintain this level. About 67 percent of new students are out-of-state; a few years ago about 33 percent were out-of-state.

Question: What is the status regarding unreliable TOEFL scores?—Two years ago we sent 22 students to the ELC for additional language education; 21 became regular students in one year. This year we sent only two students to the ELC because we now test in-country.

Athletics Update—Vice-Chancellor Bradley-Doppes and Coach Montgomery

Vice-Chancellor Bradley-Doppes provided a very detailed handout (posted at the Senate website). She emphasized that DU Athletics has a 91 percent graduation rate and seeks to improve this. She also noted some of Athletics' successes on the fields, their focus on campus engagement and partnerships, and community outreach and partnerships. She thanked faculty for their contributions to student-athlete success.

She explained that after two years of complex negotiations with the previous hockey coach DU chose to hire a new hockey coach. A national search was conducted and several candidates visited the DU campus. Jim Montgomery was selected. He has extensive coaching experience, was captain of national championship teams, has professional experience, and shares our values. Recruiting is going well.

Vice-Chancellor Bradley-Doppes introduced Jim Montgomery. He stated he highly values what DU faculty do. Hockey is an expensive sport costing \$10K to \$15K per year. We want good kids from great families; their parents want academics. DU's outstanding academic quality makes it much easier to recruit student-athletes to DU. He thanked faculty for their contributions and support.

NCR Update—Tiffany Lennon

This is a brief update on NCR activities.

Allocation of Senators: Under current procedures, each unit is allocated one Senator for each 10 faculty. Under the by-laws, the Chair decides how to handle exceptions and what to do when the faculty number or increment is less than ten. The NCR Committee believes we should have a policy and recommends that we add a Senator for each 6 ½ faculty above an increment of ten. Units would be permitted to petition for adjustments.

Be(A)ware—Scott Leutenegger

To counter the hideous message that was written on a wall at one of the residence halls and bring awareness to our entire Pioneer community, the Be(A)ware campaign hopes to highlight and celebrate the incredible diversity on our campus. This is a heartwarming student initiative.

<http://beaware-du.tumblr.com/>

Post-Tenure Review Evaluation Committee—Scott Leutenegger

The Personnel Committee would like to broaden the membership of this committee to include both the Personnel Committee members and additional members selected by the Executive Committee.

By a voice vote the Senate approved the formation of this Post-Tenure Review Evaluation ad hoc committee.

APT Approval Process—Scott Leutenegger

Scott suggested a two-step process for approval of the proposed APT revisions.

Step 1: Senate Vote—After review and discussion of the final draft, the Senate would vote on whether to approve the document. Step 2 would occur only if the document is approved by a majority vote of the Senate.

Step 2: Faculty-wide Vote—After Senate approval there would be a faculty-wide vote on the APT document. The document would be approved if a majority of the voting faculty votes to approve it.

The Senate approved this two-step process:

35--Yes

0--No

3--Abstain

Executive Session—APT Draft

Only Senators were present for this session.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Prepared and submitted by

John Hill

Faculty Senate Secretary