Faculty Senate Newsletter

Synopsis of the November 25, 2013 Faculty Senate meeting

This newsletter will be sent out monthly and will provide you with a snapshot of what took place at the most recent Faculty Senate meeting. To learn more about any issue, click on the item and it will take you to more information further down the page; the numbers below correspond with the numbers above. If you have any questions, please contact one of the senators for your school or college. The list of senators can be found on the Faculty Senate website.

President's and Provost's Announcements

1. President Barbara Snyder announced that effective November 15, 2013, Professors Jessica Berg and Michael Scharf will serve as acting deans of the School of Law for the indefinite future. The President reported that Profs. Berg and Scharf are in the process of meeting with alumni, faculty, students and staff of the School of Law to address any concerns and questions. They are also meeting with leaders of Cleveland law firms. The acting deans have hit the ground running and are leading the implementation of the new law school curriculum.

2. The President reported that the master planning process is underway. One of the items to be discussed is development of land on the western end of the campus where a new medical school was to have been constructed. This land is available now that the university has joined with the Cleveland Clinic to build the new school on Cleveland Clinic property. Professor Carol Musil was appointed by the late Senate chair, Steven Garverick, to chair the committee charged with selecting a consultant for this process. Ten firms have been chosen to present more in-depth proposals.

3. Provost Bud Baeslack reported that he had received additional feedback on the strategic plan, and that a new plan should be available soon. A search committee has been formed for the position of Chief Information Officer and the committee will include Raymond Muzic, chair of the Faculty Senate Committee on Information Communication and Technology. The committee will begin its work after the first of the year.

Chair's Announcements

4. Prof. Sandra Russ, chair of the Faculty Senate, said that she will provide a summary of standing committee comments on the Interim Sexual Misconduct Policy at the December Executive Committee and Faculty Senate meetings.

5. A list of proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook and Senate By-Laws is being compiled by Prof. Russ and Rebecca Weiss as part of the 5-year review, and the list will be presented to the Senate Executive Committee most likely in January.

6. Prof. Russ is working on identifying candidates for the position of chair-elect and hopes to hold an election soon.

7. Prof. Russ recognized Deputy Provost Lynn Singer, who informed the Senate that the link to the faculty climate survey will be sent to them on January 6th and the survey will remain open until February 10th. The survey is completed every 3 years and is anonymous. Jean Gubbins, director of Institutional Research, is the only person who will be able to determine the identity of those completing it. The Deputy Provost asked that senators encourage their respective constituent faculties to take the survey.

Report from the Executive Committee

8. Professor Katy Mercer, Executive Committee representative from the School of Law, reported
that at the November 15th Executive Committee meeting, the committee members had heard a report from Professor Elizabeth Click on the progress of the smoke-free campus policy.

9. Prof. Mercer also reported that the Executive Committee had heard from its School of Medicine representative that there is an issue regarding which body at the School of Medicine is considered to be its executive committee (the Faculty Council or the Steering Committee of the Faculty Council). This is important because of the requirement in the Faculty Handbook that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee member sit ex officio on the executive committee of his/her constituent faculty. Prof. Russ will be helping to facilitate the resolution of this issue.

Report from the Secretary of the Corporation

10. Colleen Treml, Deputy General Counsel, reported on two items of importance to the Faculty Senate that had been reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee of the CWRU Board of Trustees at its November 19th meeting. The first was the proposal to disestablish the Department of Oral Pathology and to rename the Department of Oral Diagnosis and Radiology to the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences in the School of Dental Medicine.

11. The second was a resolution to approve a change to the 2013-2018 Academic Calendar (dates of fall break).

Agenda Items

12. School of Law: Executive MA in Financial Integrity

13. School of Medicine: MS in Medical Physiology Off-Site Program

14. International Agreement Approval Form

Reports

15. Report from the Faculty Conciliation and Mediation Program

16. Report on Faculty Development Office

More Information

12. Professor Dale Nance, LAW, presented the proposed Executive MA in Financial Integrity from the School of Law. Starting in the fall of 2014, the School of Law’s Program in Financial Regulation will be offering a new international Executive Master Degree in Financial Integrity. The course of study is designed for experienced professionals in the policy and practice of anti-money laundering, counter-terrorism financing and proliferation finance, and related areas such as anti-corruption. Team-taught by top academics and practitioners from around the world, this degree program will be the first of its kind offered by a major university. The program is offered in cooperation with the Financial Action Task Force, the Egmont Group, the International Governance and Risk Institute, and Northeastern University. Courses will be conducted through a combination of on-site and on-line instruction. Prof. Nance said they expect that enrollment will start out at approximately 10 students and eventually rise to 30. The main expenses of the program will be transportation costs for students. A motion to approve the program was made and seconded. The Faculty Senate voted to approve the program.

13. Professors Andrea Romani and Carole Liedtke, SOM, presented the proposed MS in Medical Physiology Off-Site Program. The primary objective of the proposed program is to provide a means for individuals to complete the existing Master of Science in Medical Physiology degree program, in part or in total, through an on-line mechanism of course delivery. The program is designed to enhance the credentials of those students who seek to further their education in professional programs such as an MD. The existing program has grown from 43 students to 83 students and the off-site program will allow those who cannot be in residence to complete the program. At the present time, 21 of the 30 required hours of coursework for the degree are available online. The development of additional online basic science courses, both inside and outside the department will be encouraged so that students can eventually satisfy all the course requirements of the MS degree via the off-site, Internet mechanism. Set electives are not identified in the proposal allowing students to take classes in other schools at CWRU or other institutions. A motion to approve the program was made and seconded. The Faculty
Senate voted to approve the program.

14. Associate Provost for International Affairs, David Fleshler, presented the International Agreement Approval form. The approval form is to be used for non-research international agreements (those agreements not subject to approval by the Office of Research Administration or by another university office such as the Technology Transfer Office). The proposer of the agreement must secure the approval of his/her department chairs/dean attesting to the fact that the proposed agreement meets the International Approval Criteria (defined within the agreement); that it corresponds to the educational or research agenda of the department; and that sufficient resources exist to implement the proposed agreement. The approval form also requires signatures from the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and the Vice Provost/Dean of Graduate Studies since they are the university’s representatives to external authorizing and accrediting bodies. The agreement will eventually be available online and David Fleshler is working with IT to make this happen. A senator asked who would make a determination of whether an agreement needs to be approved by the Faculty Senate and David Fleshler said that the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and the Dean of Graduate Studies who are required approvers will be making these decisions. A motion to endorse the agreement was made and seconded. The Faculty Senate voted to endorse the International Agreement Approval Form.

15. Professor Emeritus Wallace Gingerich, Conciliation Counselor, reported that he had served 12 faculty members during the 2012-13 academic year. This is the average number of faculty served each year since January 2010 when the program started. This is the first year since the program’s inception that a grievance was filed by a faculty member who had used mediation services prior to filing the grievance. Prof. Gingerich reported that the primary focus of two cases this year was on department functioning as a whole, rather than individual job performance or inter-collegial conflict. The active cooperation and support of the Provost's Office continues to be instrumental to the program’s success.

16. Amanda Shaffer, Director, Faculty Development Office (FDO), reported on the activities of the FDO office. The mission of the FDO is to provide and coordinate key resources across the university to strengthen the recruitment, advancement, retention, and quality of life for all faculty. The three main areas of focus are information dissemination, programming and partner/spouse services. The FDO creates and facilitates career enhancement and quality of life programming both independently and in partnership with other university offices. It also addresses concerns and priorities identified by the Faculty Development Council. With respect to partner/spouse services CWRU will be the lead institution in the Higher Education Recruitment Consortium for Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia (HERC). The HERC advances a member institution’s ability to recruit and retain the most diverse and talented workforce and to assist dual-career couples. The annual investment for member institutions will be $5,000-$7,000. The FDO expects that an agreement establishing the HERC will be in place by June of 2014.

Learn more about the Faculty Senate.