November 2017 Faculty Senate Newsletter

This newsletter encompasses business conducted during the November 28th, 2017 Senate meeting.

Of Particular Importance to All University Faculty

**Report from Conciliation Counselor**
Professor Emeritus William Leatherberry, Conciliation Counselor, reported that he counseled 15 individuals between July 1, 2016 and June 30, 2017. Eight of the matters involved disputes over personnel practices that could have evolved into grievances. Three of these matters involved inter-collegial conflicts. Prof. Leatherberry said that he held four mediation sessions during the year and one grievance was filed. He reminded the Senate that he is available to talk to faculty groups about the services he provides and the value of dispute resolution.

**Graduate Student Council “Charlottesville” Resolution**
Sahil Gulati, Vice President of Academic Affairs for the Graduate Student Council, and a member of the Senate, presented the “Charlottesville” resolution in which the GSC denounced and condemned all acts of racism, violence and bigotry, including those that occurred during the August 12, 2017 Charlottesville, Virginia demonstrations. The GSC was seeking Faculty Senate endorsement of the resolution. A member of the Senate, who expressed general support for the resolution, asked why the first “Resolved” clause didn’t include the words “race” and “nationality”. Mr. Gulati responded that this may have been an oversight and suggested that he return the resolution to the GSC for discussion of this issue. The Senate encouraged Mr. Gulati to return once the matter was addressed by the GSC.

Other Items from the Meetings

**School of Engineering By-Laws**
The Senate approved proposed revisions to the School of Engineering By-Laws.

**Degree Name Change- Master of Arts in Bioethics**
The Faculty Senate approved changing the name of the School of Medicine Master of Arts in Bioethics to the Master of Arts of Bioethics and Medical Humanities to better reflect the content of the degree program.

**Graduate Certificate in Health Informatics**
The Senate approved a new graduate certificate in Health Informatics from the School of Medicine.
Master of Arts in Financial Integrity- Proposal for New Off – Campus Locations

The original proposal for this degree program, which had been approved by the Senate in 2013, had anticipated that the program would be offered in a number of financial markets around the country and abroad. Since many of these locations are now known, the School of Law requested Senate approval for the specific sites. The Faculty Senate approved the proposal for the off-campus sites.

More detailed information on all items included in this newsletter are available in the draft minutes posted on the Google site for the 2017-18 Faculty Senate Meetings. Once the minutes have been approved by the Senate, they will be posted on the Faculty Senate website along with all related documents.