

# **Faculty Senate Newsletter**

Synopsis of the December 20th, 2016 Faculty Senate Meeting

More detailed information on all items included in this newsletter are available in the draft minutes posted on the Google site for the <u>January Faculty Senate meeting</u>. Once the minutes have been approved by the Senate, they will be posted on the Faculty Senate website along with all related documents.

## Of Particular Importance to All University Faculty

### **CWRU International Rankings**

David Fleshler, Vice Provost for International Affairs, introduced the topic of international rankings. Several faculty members and staff had expressed concern about the university's international rankings. Although the university's rankings among US institutions have remained steady, they have fallen when compared with both domestic and international institutions. Among the top three international rankings - Academic Ranking of World Universities, QS World University Rankings, and Times Higher Education World University Rankings- Times Higher Education has been chosen as the ranking on which to focus. While the rankings' indicators fluctuate over time, Times Higher Education has been the most consistent and uses reliable methodologies. An ad hoc Committee is being formed to identify actions that will help increase the university's position in this ranking, to create recommendations for a targeted plan, and to identify resources necessary to implement the recommended actions. The ad hoc Committee will report to the Senate again in the future.

### Other Items from the Meeting

### **Proposed Revisions to FSCICT Charge**

Professor Ledford presented a proposed revision to the charge for the Faculty Senate Committee on Information and Communication Technology. The Committee proposed removing the Council of Technology Officers representative from Committee membership since the Council no longer exists as a result of the reorganization of IT. The Senate voted to approve the proposed revision.

#### **Proposed Revisions to Graduate Studies Committee Charge**

Prof. Ledford presented proposed revisions to the charge for the Graduate Studies Committee, including a change in the student membership since the Graduate Student Senate and the Professional Student Association have merged. The Senate voted to approve the revisions.



### **Development Report**

Bruce Loessin, Senior Vice President for University Relations and Development, presented a development update. The presentation slides are available for review on the <u>Google site</u> and will be posted with the approved minutes from the meeting on the Faculty Senate website.