

## Regular Meeting of the University Senate

October 6, 2005

Manchester Center, Hazard Board Room

### Attendance

*Law:* Lazerow, Chair; Kelly

*Arts & Sciences:* Guerrieri; Lewis; Meter; Moran; Nadkarni; Nelson; Otto; Pachence; D.

Sullivan; Velo; Walsh; Williams; Wright

*Business:* Barkacs; Gin; Schubert; Worzala

*Education:* Perrakis; Quezada

*Nursing:* Ahern-Lehmann

*Ex-Officio:* Cordeiro

*Student Representative:* None

*Guests:* Andy Allen; Beth Dobkin; Larry Gardepie; Carmen Vazquez

Lazerow opened the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

### I. Announcements

**A. Senate committees.** Lazerow requested that Senators contact him about nominees for the Faculty Status Committee (A&S rep. needed), Budget Committee, and Jurisdiction Committee.

**B. Board of Trustees Retreat.** Lazerow reported on the Board of Trustees Retreat, Oct. 1 and 2. Shared governance was the retreat theme. Through presentations and exercises trustees learned about the role of faculty governance in university affairs.

### C. Provost's announcements.

The A&S Dean Search Committee has begun to interview dean candidates.

Dobkin and Reuben Mitchell are co-chairs of an inclusion and diversity committee as part of the University's strategic planning. Deans will be asked to name committee representatives. The committee will focus on three issues: creating a culture of inclusion; advancing cultural competence; and recruiting and retaining diverse faculty, students, and staff. Julie Sullivan and Carmen Vazquez have requested that the committee make recommendations that the vice presidents can act upon quickly.

**D. Senate Budget Committee report.** Kelly reported that the committee met with the Provost on Oct. 4 and the following information was presented: Given a 6% tuition increase, 4% salary increase, an automatic increase in financial aid, and \$2 million set aside for projected additional energy, about \$1.8 million is left in the budget for requests that total about \$8 million. Additionally, that \$1.8 million may be used to fund development positions that are now budgeted from the capital campaign. These positions would be added to the permanent budget.

Dobkin said that at the University Budget Committee meeting on Oct. 5, it was noted that Development would pay at least one-half the costs associated with shifting some development positions to the academic units, and that Msgr. Dillabough had guaranteed that \$8 million would be returned to the operating budget to make up for funds misreported as gifts in the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

**E. Athletics Committee of the Board update.** Moran, the committee's Senate representative, reported that a new intercollegiate tennis complex in the existing tennis area is being proposed with a named planned gift of \$1.6 million. The proposal would be presented at the Finance Committee of the Board to get approval of the complex with construction to coincide with the construction of SOLES. Moran will prepare a one-page report for the Senate's Oct. 20 meeting.

**2. Approval of minutes of Sept. 22, 2005:** The minutes will be approved at the Oct. 20, 2005 Senate meeting.

### **3. Discussion**

**A. Four areas of USD strategic planning emphasis.** Lazerow welcomed Larry Gardepie, Research and Planning Analyst, IRP. Gardepie presented an overview of and updates on the four strategic direction initiatives: Catholic Social Thought, Diversity and Inclusion, Integrated Learning/First Year Experience, and Internationalization. Committees and subcommittees are being established with broad representation of faculty, staff, students, and, when appropriate, alumni. Each committee will follow a similar process, beginning with an assessment of what planning or activities are taking place already on campus in relation to the initiatives. Gardepie further explained the 12 action plan themes that were developed over the last two years through Cabinet and Executive Council retreats and open forums.

Senators discussed the concepts, initiative planning, and committee composition of the strategic directions and themes.

### **B. Topics of discussion with President Mary Lyons at the Senate's Oct. 20 meeting.**

Responding to a query from Lazerow, Senators suggested the following topics for discussion:

- Strategic Initiatives
- Information Technology and the search for a chief information officer
- Decentralization of the budget process
- Bottom line cost for the University Center, SOLES, and new student housing
- Priorities of the President
- Update on University High School property
- Thoughts about academic excellence at USD
- Status of Dean searches for A&S, Law, and Peace Studies

**C. University Center expansion and renovation planning update.** Lazerow welcomed Carmen Vazquez, VP for Student Affairs, and Noelle Norton, faculty representative on the UC expansion committee. Norton summarized the planning process and committee's work to date and then invited Senators' comments and questions.

Vazquez, responding to a Senator's query, said that the UC expansion is not related to a two-year residency requirement proposed last spring by Student Affairs. The expansion is indirectly linked to efforts to enhance the sophomore-year experience, in that the renovated UC should be more attractive to all students, sophomores included. The sophomore-year experience initiative is more directly related to the expansion of new student housing, not the UC per se.

Vazquez reported that the UC will include 22,535 square feet of existing, unrenovated space; 53,970 SF of renovated space; and 68,300 SF of new construction. The process is in the development stage and is conceptual in nature, with drawings that show programmatic adjacencies.

Discussion followed regarding activity space, study space, student office space, bookstore space, and whether there would be enough evening and weekend activity space. Norton said she emphasized at committee meetings the desire to keep ample student space for varied uses and activities. Vasquez said that the spaces are designed to be multipurpose in nature.

The concept of a pub in the UC was discussed as an area for graduate students and faculty to meet socially. Senators expressed a strong desire for a pub. Other recommendations included a separate

textbook space, an academic bookstore with coffee and food service, and a separate area for graduate students to gather.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

David Sullivan  
Secretary

Peggy Agerton  
Recording Secretary