

Regular Meeting of the University Senate

September 25, 2003

University Center, Forum B

Attendance

Arts & Sciences: Dobkin, Chair; Branch; Herrinton; Lewis; Loer; Nadkarni; Otto; Pachence; Payne; Pierson; Sullivan; Williams

Business: Smith

Education:

Law: Horton; Kelly; Berend

Nursing: Orsi

Ex-Officio: Cook; Drinan; Lazarus; Lyons

Student Representatives: Castanos; Gallant; Niederkorn

Dobkin called the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m.

1. Announcements

a) Action item no. 3. If there are no objections from the floor, discussion of action item no. 3 as listed on the agenda (Recommendations of the Committee on Benefits Policy) will be suspended until after the President's annual address.

b) Mission and Ministry Committee report. A report from the Mission and Ministry Committee of the Board of Trustees is included with the agenda.

c) GE Review Committee. Drinan said the GE Review Committee has been expanded by five members. The committee intends to submit its recommendations to the faculty by October, 2004.

d) Senate membership by unit. Lazarus said the statistics used to determine the number of Senators by unit will be available by the next meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of Sept. 11, 2003

Motion by Herrinton, seconded by Payne, to: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2003.

Vote: 17 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The motion passed.

3. Amendment of Rank and Tenure Policy

Motion: The Executive Committee moves to postpone discussion of amendments to the Rank & Tenure Policy to the Oct. 9, 2003 meeting.

Vote: 17 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The motion passed.

4. Executive Committee nominations for Senate representatives on standing and ad hoc committees.

Motion by the Executive Committee for the Senate to approve the appointment of Dennis Zocco to the Board of Trustees Investment Committee, 2003-2004.

Vote: Motion passed by acclamation.

Motion by the Executive Committee for the Senate to approve the following nominees to serve on standing and ad hoc Senate committees:

Benefits Policy Committee

Nominees: Jancy Jex Sabin (Nursing), Gwendolyn Lytle (Finance/Admin), Keith Fink (SEA).

Budget Committee

Nominees: Larry Alexander (Law), Mary Jo Clark (Nursing), Jim Smith (Bus.)

Faculty Status

Nominees: Paul Horton (Law), Tammy Dwyer (AS)

Jurisdiction Committee

Nominees: Carolyn Brown (Nursing), Bob Donmoyer (Educ.), Tom Schubert (Bus.)

Honorary Degrees Committee

Nominees: Craig Barkacs (Bus.), Cynthia Connelly (Nursing), Nancy Carter (Law)

Vote: Passed by acclamation.

5. Annual address to the Senate of President Mary Lyons.

Lyons congratulated Dobkin on her election as Chair of the Senate. Lyons highlighted issues of which she spoke briefly at the convocation.

A new Office of Institutional Research and Planning has been created from the Institutional Research Office headed by Cel Johnson and Business Process Redesign headed by Larry Gardepie. The Office will conduct institutional data collection and birddog the strategic planning process.

The strategic planning process was approved by the Cabinet on Sept. 23. The strategic plan will be as deep and broad in its consultative range as possible and produce a product by the end of the academic year. The timeline for the process is as follows:

October / November: Data collection.

December / February: Analysis of data; presentation of draft plan to the Trustees at their February retreat.

February / March: Development of strategies for the University from the collected data.

March / April: Plan completion.

May: Gain Board approval of the plan by the Trustees' last meeting in spring.

Lyons said that the Strategic Plan Steering Committee is composed of Cook (chair), Dobkin, Drinan, Cordeiro, a trustee, and an alumnus. Johnson and Gardepie will conduct focus groups over the next two months with faculty, students, alumni, members of the business community, community service constituents, parents, and local church leaders.

Task forces headed by the vice presidents will review collected data to prepare a 5-year plan. Some areas -- such as educational effectiveness and educational capacity, as defined by WASC criteria; Catholic identity and Catholic character; and the model for diversity and inclusion -- will involve all campus constituencies. The Strategic Plan becomes the rationale for development efforts and for resource priorities. The strategic planning work and the Office of Institutional Research and Planning will identify benchmarks as aids in determining whether progress has been made in the plan areas. A marketing study will be done to create a marketing plan.

Research and planning should align with enrollment management. A policy committee is studying enrollment management and a consultant will be hired. Faculty are especially important to this study in regards to determining aspirations and strategic priorities in the areas of enrollment capacity, diversity, gender balance, international students enrollment, and program development. The Office for Research and Planning will use strategic planning as a roadmap in making decisions about how USD will conduct business for the next few years.

The hiring of a new Vice President for University Relations is a priority, especially with a capital campaign just beginning. A draft case statement for the capital campaign will be refined to yield a compelling case for fundraising and to highlight USD's niche for moving forward.

Lyons said she is also focused on strengthening an already strong university by moving toward a concept she has tentatively called "the University experience." Students and alumni have varying affiliations with the Schools and College but nonetheless can claim common USD experiences. She wants to align the experience of the University's Catholic character with the discourse that describes that experience. This would serve as evidence that the social teachings of the Church are being lived, applied, and taught across the campus, and it would make a case for the Catholic character of USD in an authentic way.

The Board has approved term limits for its membership, which creates an opportunity to both raise the Board's profile with our regional, national, and international constituents and to constitute a Board that is prepared to guide USD through the next phase of its development. Lyons said that she will propose that more time at Board meetings be devoted to the Trustees' interaction with faculty and students.

The inauguration week in November is a celebration of USD; the goal is to showcase to the public and the University community the history and future of USD. It will feature faculty and students who provide service in the local communities. A Linda Vista community service day will be at the Linda Vista library. She encouraged faculty participation in inaugural events.

She expressed her appreciation of the Senate both as the legislature for the University and as a source of advice for her work.

Lyons welcomed comments and questions from Senators.

Horton asked how the strategic plan will capture for planning purposes the needs of the individual units with individual constituencies. Lyons responded that deans from the professional schools and A&S are on the plan's steering committee as advocates for a holistic plan and will have priorities that reflect the interests of the different constituents. Lyons cautioned that we will need to find a way to make the priorities for each professional school and the College clear so that donors can be steered to areas of need.

Lewis recommended "community" in place of "the University experience" as a goal that will help make the strategic plan work. In the past, USD's sense of community made it strong. She recommended conceptualizing the plan in terms of interlocking communities to recover the sense of USD as a special place where students have a spectacular experience and faculty feel they have a purpose and mission.

Kelly asked Lyons how she views the Senate's role in University governance and how she would make the Senate more effective. Lyons responded that she lacks experience with the Senate to support a concrete answer. She said, however, that she is glad there is a University Senate because it communicates to the administration what faculty are thinking. She said that she needs to learn the scope of the Senate's jurisdiction and how the Senate comports itself vis-à-vis the Staff Employees Association.

Responding to Loer's question about whether the capital campaign goal of \$200 million was too modest, especially given the University's endowment needs, Lyons said the advance work will proceed with what is needed to capitalize USD for brick and mortar, endowment, and financial aid. But, she said, the capital campaign is likely to be merely a first step in a perpetual series of fundraising campaigns.

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by,

David Sullivan
Secretary

Peggy Agerton
Recording Secretary