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2016-10-14 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes
Meeting of the University of Dayton Academic Senate
October 14, 2016
Kennedy Union Ballroom 3:30-5:18

Present: Senators William Trollinger, Myrna Gabbe, Joel Whitaker, Joe Valenzano, Caroline Merithew, John Goebel, Todd Smith, Carissa Krane, Shuang-ye Wu, Minh Ho, Lee Dixon, Laura Leming, Jeanne Holcomb, Elizabeth Kelsch, Jim Dunne, Sarah Webber, Rebecca Wells, Matthew Peters, Kevin Kelly, Corinne Daprano, Phil Anloague, Mary Kay Kelly, Elizabeth DeLamatre, Eddy Rojas, Markus Rumpfkeil, Deo Eustace, Ben Bonne, Andrea Seielstad, Dori Spaulding, Kathy Webb, Susan Elliott, Ann Biswas, Amy Krug, Mateo Chavez, Paul Benson

Absent: Jason Pierce, Mark Jacobs, Andrew Strauss, Paul Benson

Guests: Bill Fischer, Alan Kelley, David J. Wright, Paul Vanderburgh, Eric F. Spina

The regular weekly meeting of the University of Dayton Academic Senate was held on Friday, October 14, 3:00 – 5:18 p.m., in the Kennedy Union Ball Room, with Senate President Joe Valenzano presiding. Lee Dixon provided the opening prayer. The minutes of the September 23, 2016, meeting were approved without objection.

Sr. Laura Lemming proposed that, in the light of recent events related to racial injustice, a resolution be passed by the Academic Senate denouncing all acts of intimidation, violence, and hatred; affirming the efforts of President Spina in encouraging Catholic and Marianist values; echoing Student Government Association Resolution 1617-04; and committing to building a more inclusive community. The Senate approved the resolution on a vote of 37 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

The President introduced guest speaker Paul Vanderburgh, Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs, who presented and took questions regarding the 2U project for an online Master of Business Administration program to be offered by the University of Dayton School of Business Administration, commencing in 2017.

The President introduced guest speaker Eric Spina, President of the University of Dayton, who discussed and took questions regarding University shared governance, with emphasis on the following:

- From a philosophical standpoint, a university should function as a team effort to achieve excellence in teaching, scholarship, and community, based on a common understanding among stakeholders that the university is "our university," not the "administrators' university";
- From a pragmatic standpoint, a university cannot chart a new course effectively or efficiently with "top-down" direction, and effective leadership includes consideration of ideas put forth by the faculty and other stakeholders, so that progress is enhanced by a sense of shared direction;

- Shared governance does not mean ex post facto consultation, but ideally generates, in the active course of decision making, conversations that produce shared wisdom, which is greater than individual wisdom in charting a path forward;
- At the University of Dayton, Marianist values, which should be recognized and honored, appear to favor broad engagement and an egalitarian approach to the value of all perspectives;
- Relationships with various University stakeholders, including trustees, faculty, staff, and students – individually and as groups – are important and should be established before times of crisis;
- Different stakeholders may have different roles in shared governance, in that the trustees' role is a fiduciary role, it is role of the faculty to participate in setting the academic policies of the institution, and the role of students, while perhaps less formal, is important to help identify strengths and concerns in the educational mission.

The Senate discussed Strategic Visioning, and the role faculty, students, and administrators will play in shared governance in the next twenty years, with special reference to "Principal Characteristics of Marianist Administration" and "Marianist Resources for University Governance." Senators are encouraged to continue the discussion and to participate actively in the Strategic Visioning conversations.

Updates on the work of the Academic Policy Committee, the Student Academic Policy Committee, the Faculty Affairs Committee, and the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate were presented by their respective chairs.

It was announced that there will be a Spotlight in Technology, Arts, Research, and Scholarship luncheon in November and a grant writing workshop in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Elliott