
Chairperson Rainey called the meeting to order at 1:15 pm.

Joyce Grant moved and Gary Stone second approval of the minutes of October 9, 2013. The motion was approved unanimously.

Rainey called attention to Joseph Chartkoff’s new draft of FEA history and asked the members of the committee to review and comment. A resolution was passed commending Chartkoff for the hard work accomplished so far.

Pauline Adams reported that the Board of Trustees met on October 25, 2013. It was announced that the university has hired three new investment managers, namely Vulcan Value Partners LLC; Vitruvian Partners LLP; and GTCR LLC. The Board authorized planning or construction on Bessey Hall—Renovate Third Floor; Veterinary Teaching Hospital—Nursing Care Unit Renovation; Veterinary Medical Center—Replace Fire Alarm System; West Circle Housing Complex—Infrastructure Improvements (Phase 2 of 2); Wilson Hall—Creative Commons Renovation; Engineering Building—Chiller Replacement; Special Housing Needs/Spartan Village; Chittenden Hall—Renovation; Spartan Marching Band—Artificial Turf Field SE corner Munn Field; and North Campus Infrastructure Improvements—West Circle Drive—2014. The Board also approved planning for a project in Midland for study and instruction in supply chain management. Professor Charles MacKenzie reported on over 30 years of work around the world on attempts to control, cure, and eliminate elephantitis and river blindness, both of which are spread by larvae of parasitic roundworms. The goal is to eliminate the diseases by 2025. During the public participation portion a group of five people presented their case for a contract for non-tenured faculty, including a sequence of four readings of three minutes each of the names and salaries of fixed term faculty.

The University Council met on October 22, 2013. Bruce Miller noted that the president was away and Acting Provost Yuatt conducted the meeting and made comments as did Professor Sue Carter, Chairperson of the Steering Committee of Academic Council. An ad hoc committee on Social Media, Pedagogy, Academic Rights and Responsibilities, is charged with gathering information, examining experiences at other universities, and presenting best practices as they relate to social media, teaching, and speech rights and responsibilities in the classroom and with presenting a report with recommendations to the Council.

Gary Stone indicated that the ad hoc committee on health care has not met. At the Faculty Senate meeting on October 15 Director of Benefits Renee Rivard described consumer driven health plans with high deductibles. This is not something that would be available to retirees and might not yet be available to active employees. Apparently these plans attract relatively small enrollments. At the October 15 meeting and the November 12 meeting there were a total of 36 new courses, 122 course changes and 34 course deletions approved.

At its November 12 meeting the Faculty Senate recommended to the Academic Council a change to the Bylaws of Academic Governance to replace the ad-hoc health care committee with a faculty health care council to function as a faculty voice to Human Resources and to the administration on health care and health benefits. This council would have nine faculty appointed by the steering committee and certain ex-officio members such as the Assistant Vice President of Planning and Budgets question of whether
emeriti would be heard or represented. Stone suggested that the FEA steering committee should petition for representation in the bylaw.

There was consensus that the Faculty Emeriti Association should send a letter to the chair of Steering Committee of Academic Governance, Professor Sue Carter, requesting that the bylaw creating the ad-hoc health care committee should state that the committee should have an ex officio member appointed by FEA as representative of retired faculty, noting that an ex officio member without vote has has been the practice of the current ad hoc health care committee established by the faculty affairs committee. Professor Miller agreed to prepare a draft of the letter. Bond moved and Gliozzo seconded a motion to support Miller’s effort and the motion passed unanimously.

Miller will also contact Sue Carter for advice on how to approach amending the bylaw as it is proposed.

Bruce Miller noted a very small turnout in October for the talk about the pre-freshman-year overseas experience. Lectures planned are Allan Schmid on November 19, Harry Perlstadt December 3, Paul Abramson in January, and Megan Donohue in February.

Adams reported no activity on oral history. Grant will work with Adams on a candidate to interview. Discussion produced suggestions for several interviewees.

New Business The FEA has been asked about including emeriti faculty from other universities. The committee indicated that such individuals are welcome at any of the activities of the FEA. Forsyth will contact the individual who raised the question and establish ongoing communication via email announcements.

There was a brief discussion of the LENS program which has replaced the Evening College. Forsyth will contact LENS with proposed offering of FEA lectures.

The next meetings are December 11, 2013 and January 8, 2014 in room 302 International Center.