Faculty Senate 
November 2021 Minutes

1. Call to Order
   a. In attendance: Chandler, Arxer, Baggerly, Borges, Goodson, Hackard, Holmes (S), Johnson, Lin, Smith, Varga, Yousufuddin, Zia

2. Jose de Silva, Dean of Student Affairs Introduction
   a. Brandon Turner - Assistant Director of Office of Community Standards
   b. Both Brandon and Dr. de Silva are available to assist with conduct issues and other student concerns.

3. Approval of Minutes
   a. Motion to Accept: Yousufuddin & Holmes – 10 – 0 – 0: Carried

4. COVID Impact on Teaching
   a. LAS was asked to craft a survey for all faculty regarding preference for teaching format in Spring
   b. SGA is crafting a similar survey to go to students
   c. It seems unlikely that the format would change for Spring but there is a possibility for changes in the subsequent semesters.
   d. If we continue with remote courses, a remote course observation instrument might need to be developed.
   e. Student feedback results have a lower response rate and generally lower scores
   f. Students in A/B-day courses are reportedly doing more poorly in classes than virtual or face-to-face courses
   g. Enrollments are very low and could be caused by the A/B schedule

5. COVID Impact on Faculty Evaluations
   a. It was previously recommended that the score breaks be lowered by 1 point in the teaching category to accommodate for COVID
   b. Administration asked for quantifiable data on why a “1” is an appropriate adjustment
   c. Faculty Senate was unable to find supporting data
   d. The LAS Dean’s Office has compared student feedback from COVID teaching and pre-COVID teaching and is claiming no difference in scores.
      i. The Student Feedback data is not being made public, even to faculty.
      ii. Faculty Senate needs access to the comparison data in order to make a good recommendation
   e. Impact to faculty could be varied due to discipline, student perception, course format, etc
   f. Motion to request student feedback data for two years prior to COVID and compare it to COVID data per school: Yousufuddin & Borges – 13 – 0 – 0

6. Adjunct Faculty Representation on Faculty Senate
   a. Would it be feasible to have an adjunct on Faculty Senate?
   b. Adjuncts would need to get organized so that there could be an effective representative for all adjuncts
   c. Other universities have adjuncts on Faculty Senate but mostly non-voting
   d. We need to define what an adjunct is. Are employees who teach a course considered adjuncts?
e. Recommendation for a non-voting member and give that representative time to voice concerns in the meeting
f. Concern over logistics and having sufficient adjuncts who understand the university

7. AAUP Shared Governance
   a. Develop a qualtrics survey that reflects the national survey and determines how faculty perceive the university is doing about shared governance
   b. Limit to full-time faculty

8. Committee Updates
   a. Academic Affairs
      i. Attendance Policy has been reviewed
      ii. Cynthia Rodriguez voted as chair
   b. Faculty Handbook
      i. Pam Thompson voted as chair
      ii. Items needing resolution has been passed to committee and are under review
      iii. Dr. Thompson met with Dr. Remmers and has a meeting planned with Dr. Stewart
         1. Planning to ask Dr. Stewart to provide importance of completing this to lower administration
      iv. Currently no faculty handbook available to faculty online
      v. Current version is lacking original statement on shared governance
   c. Faculty Worklife
      i. Gabe Otteson voted as chair
      ii. Working on compensation, stop-clock policies, etc
   d. IT
      i. Committee is going to departments to ask for instructional needs
      ii. Faculty Senate will check if intellectual property policy was approved; if so, it still needs to go to Academic Council
      iii. Does Faculty Senate have a mechanism for recognizing support staff for faculty.
         1. Nominate to the staff award
         2. Faculty Senate can make a resolution to directly recognize
   e. Library Committee
      i. Nothing to report
   f. Nominations and Elections
      i. Janiece Upshaw voted as chair
      ii. Discussed procedure for Faculty Senate elections
         1. Hoping to have completed elections by April for a smooth transition
   g. Constitution and Bylaws
      i. Joshua Goodson voted as chair
      ii. Confusion over name “Charter and Bylaws” vs “Constitution and Bylaws”
      iii. EDUC spot on committee is still open
   h. Annual Advisory Review
      i. Walt Borges is chairing the committee
      ii. Quantitative questions (likert-scale) will go to faculty with an optional open-ended question
      iii. Review Dean, Provost, President
iv. Questions will cover perception of leadership, trustworthiness, and competence
v. There is support from administration for this review to be done
vi. Point made that program coordinators mostly serve in the role as service and should not be evaluated in this way
vii. It is also recommended that members of this committee be tenured for protection

9. Other Business
   a. UBAC appointment not listed in committee list. Is that appointment still available?
      i. It is and there will likely be additional appointments. No word yet on timeline.