

President's Report to the Faculty Senate – April 8, 2015

1. Faculty Dialogue (*Defining "Teacher-Scholar": Exploring Faculty Workload and Life Balance*) was held on March 26, 2015. The Faculty Senate thanks Provost Bergeron for participating in this discussion. Among the ideas expressed at the Dialogue were:
 - need to promote the image of the university (to help attract resources needed to pursue our mission);
 - desire and critical need to establish a holistic balance for work expectations and performance;
 - importance of clarifying expectations of faculty, while maintaining broad definitions of scholarship and service, in keeping with the spirit of our contract;
 - need to provide realistic, helpful guidance to faculty members on their performance by enhancing feedback related to faculty evaluation;
 - need for better infrastructure to support faculty work (e.g., technology, grant support); and
 - hope for promoting academics, scholarship, innovation through greater integration among departments..

Working with the Provost, and seeking input from the AAUP where appropriate, the Faculty Senate will pursue these ideas. The participation and guidance of the full faculty in creating constructive responses will be essential.

N.B. *While the current fiscal woes focus the mind on the decisive factor of enrollment, we must not adopt a mantra of "doing more with less." Rather, we must redefine what is reasonable and in the best interests of our students, the academy and the institution, and ensure appropriate allocation of resources to support the work the faculty is charged to do. As we work together with respected staff and administration colleagues to continue to bring to fruition the creation of knowledge, learning and academic success, reasonable and clear expectations and quality of life for faculty members must be central to the conversation. It is hoped that last Thursday's Faculty Dialogue reinforced reasonable and clear expectations and quality of life for faculty members as top priority values and goals.*

2. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee met with the Provost's Council on April 1, 2015, along with the Faculty Leadership Council. Main topic of discussion: Department Guidelines for faculty evaluation. The FS ad hoc guidelines committee, led by Dr. Peter Madonia, will commence its work.
3. The April 2, 2015, luncheon for tenure-track faculty members hired in the past five years, *Shared Governance, Balancing Expectations, Becoming Engaged: A Conversation with Newly Hired Faculty* attracted around 45 newer members along over 15 presenters and members of the Faculty Senate. We thank the planning committee, Senators Veronica Gill, Leon Yacher and Amal Abd El-Raouff; Provost Bergeron for lunch; and presenters Susan Cusato, Brian Johnson, Peter Madonia, Vijay Nair, Arthur Paulson, David Pettigrew, Michael Shea, Cynthia Stretch and Deborah Weiss. The FS needs to ensure opportunities to hear further from and listen carefully to our newer colleagues.
4. The Executive Committee met with Provost Bergeron for a breakfast meeting on Tuesday, April 7, 2015. Among the topics we discussed were the constellation of faculty concerns about evaluation, efforts underway to explore a reduced teaching load, and department guidelines for evaluation.
5. Transform 2020 update:
 - At the first meeting of the new Transform 2020 Phase II Steering Committee (Friday, March 27, 2015), a charge was given that seemed not to include the role of "steering." In response to a difference of opinion about what the committee's charge should be, Dr. Gray asked the faculty members on the committee to recommend an alternative charge for the committee, which was developed and sent to Dr Gray this morning.
 - On April 2, 2015, the Faculty Advisory Committee to the BOR passed a Resolution on Rebuilding Transform 2020 that reads:

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WHEREAS the Faculty Advisory Committee resolved not to support Transform CSCU 2020 in its current form, and the majority of CSCU campus governance bodies have voted to support this resolution;

WHEREAS Transform CSCU 2020 has failed in its original goal of increasing state funding to advance the missions of the institutions;

WHEREAS President Gray created the Transform Steering Committee to review Transform CSCU 2020;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Advisory Committee, in the spirit of shared governance, calls on the System leadership to remove all 36 initiatives from Transform CSCU 2020, and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Advisory Committee calls on President Gray to charge the Transform Steering Committee to evaluate all removed initiatives and reinstate, modify, or create initiatives that align with the Academic Imperatives, the core values and assumptions, and the distinct missions of the 17 CSCU institutions.

- In response to continuing problems with Transform CSCU 2020, the CSU Faculty Leadership Group proposed a resolution that has been shared with all 16 CSUs and CCs for their individual actions. The resolution asserts no confidence in Transform CSCU 2020 and President Gregory Gray, and demands that Transform be abandoned in its entirety.
- The resolution is presented to the SCSU Faculty Senate today for information purposes. Senators are asked to discuss the proposed action with their constituents, to inform discussion and consideration of adoption at the next faculty Senate meeting on April 22, 2015.
- The next meeting of the Transform CSCU 2020 Steering Committee: April 17, 2015.

N.B. Over the past year a close, cordial and respectful relationship has developed among faculty representatives from the four CSUs and the 12 Community Colleges, as we have worked together to promote shared governance in the formation of a system-wide plan (Transform CSCU 2020). In addition to being personally rewarding, these relationships have enhanced understanding of and appreciation for each other's role and challenges, and pave the way for conversation, cooperation and mutual support for our distinct missions.

Status of AY 15 Faculty Senate Resolutions					
Number	Date	Resolution to/on/for...	For	Disposition	Pres.' Comments (abbrev.)
F-14-01	9-24-14	Grade Appeal Procedures	Approval	Noted	Noted. Will be considered in conj. with new grade appeal process, when drafted
F-14-02	10-20-14	Sabbatical Leave Document Technical Fixes	Approval	Pending	
F-14-03	10-30-14	Hiring of Dean of School of Graduate Studies Without a National, Affirmative Action Search	Information	NA	
F-14-01R	10-30-01	Grade Appeal Procedures	Approval	Pending	
F-14-04	12-10-14	2015-2025 Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives	Information	Noted	Resolution is premature and attempts to pre-empt strategic planning process. Should be re-directed to Strategic Planning Committee.
F-14-05	12-10-14	Location of School of Health and Human Services Building on SCSU Campus	Approval	Disapproved	Resolution is factually incorrect and attempts to pre-empt the Master Facility Planning process.
S-15-06	2-4-15	TA Allocation for the Remaining Academic Year 2014-2015	Approval	Disapproved	"This resolution is premature."
S-15-07	2-25-15	New Language for Grade Replacement Policy	Approval	Approved	
S-15-08	3-4-15	Revisions to the Chairperson's Document	Approval	Pending	
S-15-09	3-4-15	Selecting All-University Committee Contact Person	Approval	Pending	
S-15-10	3-25-15	Combining of Academic Standing, University Grade Appeal and Academic Misconduct Committees	Approval	Approved	

Remaining Spring 15 Meetings: April 22, and 29 (if needed)