**UFC Meeting**

**Wednesday, February 21, 2024**

**On zoom, 4:00**

**UFC Members Present**:

Kate Haffey (CAS, Arts & Humanities)

Mara Scanlon (CAS, Arts & Humanities

Michael Benson (CAS, Arts & Humanities)

Alex Hinsey (CAS, Health, PE, & STEM),

Ian Finlayson (CAS, Health, PE, & STEM),

Davis Oldham (CAS, Health, PE, & STEM),

Melina Patterson (CAS, Social Sciences, Secretary),

Holly Schiffrin (CAS, Social Sciences),

Nabil al-Tikriti

Rachel Graefe-Anderson (COB, UFC Chair),

Kim Kinsley (COB),

Melissa Wells (COE),

Christy Irish (COE),

Chris Ryder (CAS, At-Large),

Patricia Orozco (CAS, At-Large)

Jonathan Levin (CAS, At-Large, UFC Parliamentarian)

Guests: In addition to the UFC members, there were many guests, mostly faculty, on zoom.

A recording of this meeting can be viewed at <https://ufc.umw.edu/recordings/> (UMW

login-required).

1. Call to Order at 4:03

II. Meeting Minutes

We will not approve minutes because they were submitted too late.

III. Reports

 President Troy Paino gave a report, starting with a discussion about the budget process. A pay raise is in the budget from the House and the Senate, but not the Governors. The House has proposed more money for building maintenance than the Senate.

Troy regrets his characterization of the faculty to the BOV and asks for understanding regarding how difficult this year has been for a university president. Reiterates that he has always been supportive of faculty governance.

Stephen Davies (Computer Science) suggests that the plan proposed differs from the plans discussed last semester.

Troy said that while he did not have much of the plan, he did want a plan that controlled administrative costs. Ian Finlayson (Computer Science) asks why costs were not made a more important part of the calculus.

Jason Davidson (like Stephen Davies before him) affirms that Troy supports faculty governance, however, the working group was appointed not elected.

Faculty governance issues were raised by others, in addition to concerns about department mergers, the speed of the process, the degree to which the proposed reorg addresses the problems that we are facing.

Troy repeatedly points out that he did not actually design the process or the plan.

Provost Tim O'Donnell offered an oral report, beginning by saying that he took notes regarding faculty comments to Troy.

JLARC review committee asked us to address how we are supporting underperforming programs, how we are adapting to demographic shifts that are shaping higher education. This will be an iterative process.

Healthcare feasibility study to determine what we might do alone and in partnerships and what we could do with substantial state support in the area of health sciences. This process will be long and Tim will continue to update us.

Third, he has already had meetings with several departments and hopes to meet with more is learning. He is learning. He wants to have conversations. Some of the changes between the December proposals and the February proposal came from meetings with department chairs, who all said that there was a problem with increasing administrative costs.

There was discussion about department mergers, marketing to prospective students, interdisciplinary hiring, and recruiting efforts, and the savings of the plan (about $80,000, achieved in part by decreasing the number of chairs and eliminating faculty fellow positions in admissions (and shifting some of that work to school directors).

Rachel asks for confirmation that UFOC should seek nominations for committees assuming that the same committee structure will exist next year. Confirmed.

Dean Keith Mellinger reports that computer science has successfully completed their tenure track search. Biology is in the middle of their search. Studio art will be bringing candidates to campus in the next few weeks.

Dean Pete Kelly reports that College of Education has successfully completed two searches.

Jaylyn Long had to leave before she reported.

Rachel will report on BOV meeting in March.

IV. Committee Minutes

Mara asked about the Morale Survey from UFAC. Jessiva Zeitz asked for specific questions.

Committee Minutes were approved as a block.

V. Action items

UFC approved SI Committee action items.

UFC approved DI Committee action items.

UFC approved Honors Program Committee items.

UFC approved DBLC Committee items.

UFC approved UAAC motion on regalia guidelines after a brief discussion with 15 votes to approve and one abstention.

UFC discussed the UBAC motion to disband. UFC members who have had experiences with UBAC feel that the committee should exist. Mara asks if the UFC can encourage a more productive relationship between the CFO, administration as a whole, and the committee. Dan Hubbard says that the committee has not been provided the detailed budget information (Nabil suggests that this has always been an issue). Melissa suggests that in the reorganization process some of these issues could be addressed. The UFC rejected the motion with one abstention and 11 nays.

Rachel will follow up with an email to the UBAC.

VI. Unfinished and Continuing Business

UFC and visiting faculty

* discussed whether or not the UCC is an appropriate body or committee to address restructuring and the merger and movement of departments.
* Organizational issues with colleges
* Timeline for addressing organizational/Handbook/governance issues
* How to collect feedback

Mara suggested an open google doc or form or something with a format that allows for more feedback than the survey from the working group. Rachel suggests that we need open ended questions that we can see the answers as the come in.

Christy Irish makes a motion that UFC with consultation from somebody willing to set up documents that all faculty could comment on […] with a week for comments.

Motion is seconded.

Discussion: UFC EC would appreciate suggestions, timeline is critical, when can it go out, who will get the data?

Motion passes.

Discussion about process continues.

Meeting adjourns at 6:41

Minutes submitted late and with great humility by Melina Patterson.

UFC voted to approve the FSEM Committee action item

UFC voted to approve the DBLC action items

New Business

There was vigorous discussion about the motion to eliminate option 10 (4 years of the same language in high school). Many of the positions evident in the Gen Ed Committee minutes were expressed in the UFC discussion.

The motion did not pass.

The UFC discussed the proposal (not a motion) to cancel all classes on the Day of Democracy (including labs and classes that meet once a week). Representatives from science departments and the College of Education described scheduling challenges that make losing a Tuesday very consequential.

No action was taken

The meeting adjourned at 6:00