**UFC Meeting**

**Wednesday, March 20, 2024**

**HCC, 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 (CAS, Social Sciences),

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, Troy Paino (UMW President), Tim O’Donnell (UMW Provost), College Deans and other faculty and staff were present. Additional UMW community members watched over zoom.

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

1. Call to Order at 4:02 pm
2. Minutes could not be approved because they have not been submitted.
3. Reports

President Paino gave an oral report:

We will be reviewing the mission statement, looking for brevity. Draft will be completed quickly and then have University members providing feedback.

BOV met today (Wednesday, March 20). UFC EC met with them.

State budget and public comment session. UMW likely to get 25 million for deferred maintenance (Monroe. Library, Farmer?) restored 2.1 added 2 million for each year of 300,000 for student financial aid. 3% pay raise for faculty and staff, restores Pell funding. 20 million to higher ed in general to close gap in survivors and dependents of veterans. (1.5 million this year cost to UMW). Bad news: governor is challenging that budget. There will be some vetoes and we won’t know until later in April.

Melina asked about Monroe Hall and President Paino says that Monroe will probably not be open in the Fall. Permitting takes a long time in Virginia and the permitting process has not started.

Provost Tim O’Donnell gave an oral report about issues other than restructuring.

Jane Huffman, a valued colleague in the College of Education has died. She will be missed and faculty should be aware of resources on campus to deal with grief.

HB1280 is legislation directing Virginia College and University BOVs to adopt policies requiring every graduate completing an internship. Working group has been engaged for the past months. We now have 2-3 weeks to respond. We believe that UMW’s Beyond the Classroom requirement should fulfill this. We might need to create a new rule where students who fulfill BTC with study abroad need to complete an internship or other work-related experience to fulfill the HB 1280 requirement.

Dean Kelly oral report: nothing to report at this time

Dean Mellinger oral report: nothing to report at this time

Dean Tabak written report: no questions

Jaylyn Long, SGA President: no report

Sarah Appleby, no report

UFC President reported that the Facutly Senate of Virginia meeting is April 13, on zoom 8-12. Would like an additional faculty member to attend.

IV. University Committee Minutes

UFC approved committee minutes as a batch by oral vote

V. University Committee Action Items

UFC bundled action items from Writing Intensive from February 2 and March 4 and approved them by oral vote.

UFC approved General Education action items by oral vote.

UFC approved the UCC action items and voted to approve.

UFC approved the UCC inactive course deletions (noting that the history classes from an earlier list will not be deleted) by oral vote.

UFC approved the Honors Committee action items by oral vote

UFC voted to approve the FSEM Committee action item by oral vote

UFC voted to approve the DBLC action items by oral vote

UFC voted to approve the DBLC action items

VI. Unfinished and Continuing Business

**Day on Democracy**. Rachel (UFC President) had asked people to talk to their departments (although departments do not have representation on the UFC) and Education and Jepson report continued issues with scheduling. Rachel, as UFC member, wonders if this is an academic calendar issue.

Tim acknowledges that SACCS and the Federal Government have policies about course hours and seat time and that we would need to think about that if we changed our academic calendar.

Mara suggests that we don’t have a motion to discuss and that Tim seems to be saying we need well defined alternatives for faculty

Jonathan says that the UFC can send any issue to a committee even if there is not a motion. Committees can decide to not investigate or consider.

Rachel says that she will ask for additional information about actual voting on this campus, and examples of how other campuses deal with scheduling around elections.

**Academic Reorganization**

Tim reports on 4 substantive areas.

1. What have we been doing – survey, emails, discussions, meetings with student government groups, chair of Geography, Computer Science department and individuals, Jepson chairs, and more.
2. Where are we in thinking about plan
   1. 3 Jepson departments, 4 departments in COB/new college, merger of Sociology and History/American Studies.
   2. Program coordinator policy needs to be reviewed and updated. Chair compensation needs to be reviewed.
   3. Currently we have no mechanism for inter or trans disciplinary hires or promotion and tenure, but we will need one. Increasingly colleges, schools, etc. are interdisciplinary.
   4. Develop a policy for “Affiliated faculty” to recognize that specific faculty might be in schools that don’t reflect their actual identities and work.
   5. Empower faculty to create centers to come together to work on issues of shared interest
   6. Real fear and concern that we market departments not on programs. And we need to focus on programs not departments, colleges, etc.
   7. Position descriptions for chairs and program coordinators and school directors – will be different for different schools. School director jobs may be 30% the same and then very different because they will be supporting different programs
3. Computer Science – we are not moving departments into colleges. We are creating a new college. Distinct disciplines will be protected while new programs will be innovated. Tim recognizes that this is difficult and feels existential and wants faculty to know that the program is healthy and doing well. Relocating it “provides a variety of other interesting opportunities.” However, “students should not know the difference.” The two smaller colleges need to grow into their new identities. The university wants to maintain enrollments of about 4,000 but the balance of student distribution will not be the same as it has been.
4. What are the next steps
   1. start putting proposals together for SCHEV
   2. have a group working on the Handbook this summer

Tim has heard over and over again “what is the rationale?” Exercising our adaptability. We will need to be adaptable in the future; we need to be able to adapt to changing circumstances.

We need formal channels of communication over the summer.

We might want centralized positions for student research, but we might not be able to afford it.

Mara asked Tim to finish the sentence “The main reason to have three colleges is …” Tim: “because we are too large to have one dean.” State and federal regulations make it necessary to have 3 deans.

Later there was a discussion about how members of the group working on the Handbook will be chosen. “There is lots of things we could do.”

VII. New Business

We have none

Meeting is adjourned at 5:40ish

Mintues submitted by Melina Patterson