

# **Faculty Council**

## **November 6 Meeting Summary**

### **Action Items for School Reps**

- [ ] Bring nominees to replace the outgoing member of the Ombuds Committee.

### **Outline**

#### **Approval of Minutes and Task Force Updates**

- Jeffrey George calls the meeting to order at 12:46 PM and requests approval of the minutes sent out on Friday or Saturday.
- Chris Dorr motions to approve the minutes, seconded by Janine Hawley, with no corrections or dissenting votes.

#### **Task Force Updates**

- Jeffrey George provides updates on three task forces: High School Employee Manual Task Force, AI Task Force, and Search Committees Task Force.
- Maggie Anderson and David Winkelman from the High School Employee Manual Task Force are pleased with their progress, despite challenges in finding similar institutions' policies.
- Search Committee Task Force is in final stages of formation and has a concrete timeline with specific goals, to be discussed further November 20.
- Jeffrey George will develop a survey to be taken by all members of this year's faculty searches.

#### **AI Task Force and Workshop Announcement**

- Christopher Bruhn provides a brief update on the AI Task Force, highlighting their first meeting and areas of focus, including ethical use of generative AI and faculty training.
- Christopher continues his update on the AI Task Force, mentioning their upcoming meeting on December 4 and the involvement of a representative from the generative AI committee.
- Christopher also announces a workshop on prompt engineering by a UNCSA alum, scheduled for November 20, which is expected to be valuable for faculty and staff.
- Jeffrey George connects Christopher's update to Amit Bhattacharya, a faculty member involved in AI-related committees, and emphasizes the importance of information exchange between different groups.

### **CSI Process and Town Hall Series**

- Jeffrey George discusses the CSI (schedule and workload) process, mentioning meetings with the provost and deans to develop a process and timeline.
- Jeffrey George highlights the town hall series started to gather feedback on intermission and collaborative days, with the next session focusing on these issues.
- Patrick adds that the Dean's process is central to the CSI process and emphasizes the importance of health and wellness in driving the conversation.
- Jeffrey George acknowledges the need for more time to address the CSI process and thanks Patrick and Karen for their efforts in overcoming obstacles.

### **Inclement Weather Policy, Meeting Recordings, and Ombuds Committee**

- Cliff Odle expresses frustration with the lack of communication during the last hurricane, seeking steps to rectify the situation.
- Patrick explains the communication breakdown between Clarice Davis and Corey Kelly, and the new process in place to ensure better coordination.
- Jeffrey George addresses the dissemination of recorded meeting videos, proposing to make them available to faculty through Teams with selective access.
- The motion to make video recordings available to faculty through Teams is seconded by Clint Smith and passes without dissent, with a discussion on potential alternative platforms.
- Jeffrey George mentions the need to replace a member of the Ombuds Committee and plans to restart the committee with a refocus on original principles and goals.

### **Excellence in Teaching Awards and Health and Wellness Resources**

- Jill Lane provides an overview of the Excellence in Teaching Awards committee, including its composition and process for nominations and evaluations.
- Chris Dorr and other faculty members praise the process and the role of alumni nominations in recognizing excellent teaching.
- Laurel Donley provides an update on health and wellness resources for students, including telehealth sessions, case managers, and psychiatry services.
- Laurel emphasizes the importance of proactive measures like QPR training and the Take Five campaign to promote wellness among students and faculty.

### **Policy on Academic Program Review and Post-Election Reflections**

- Patrick introduces a new policy on the annual academic program review process, requiring faculty review every five years, aligning with SACSCOC accreditation.

- Patrick acknowledges the challenging time for the nation and the potential impact on the campus community, emphasizing the importance of inclusivity and support.
- Dr. MC discusses the importance of dialogue and understanding different perspectives, suggesting the use of intermission sessions for faculty and staff to address these issues.
- Jeffrey George and Patrick reiterate the commitment to creating a welcoming and supportive environment for all faculty and staff.

### **Meeting Adjournment**

- Jeffrey George thanks everyone for their work and contributions, and declares the meeting adjourned.