Washington University in St. Louis
Minutes of Faculty Senate Council Meeting
February 2, 2021

Vijay Ramani, Bruce Carlson, Amy Eyler, Derek Hoeferlin, Stephanie Kirk, Bess Marshall, Stephen Nowlis, Rosas Guillermo, Adam Rosenzweig, Douglas Schuerer, Carla Siegfried, Victoria Thomas, Renee Van Stavern, Andrew Martin, Beverly Wendland, Leila Sadat

Guests: -- Heather Corcoran, Jennifer Smith, Peggy Smith

The meeting was called to order at 2:34 pm.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

Meeting minutes from the December 15, 2020 FSC Meeting were approved.

2. **Chancellor’s Report—Andrew Martin, Chancellor**

Chancellor Martin updated the FSC on several topics:

- Spring semester off to a good start with strict adherence to the guidelines set forth by the CDC, the states of Missouri and Illinois, as well as our local municipalities.

- On the Danforth Campus, first round of entry testing for our returning graduate and undergraduate students had a low positivity rate – just .3%  Beginning next week, surveillance testing protocol will resume, testing approx.. 10% of the students every weekday.

- As of the last two weeks of December, our colleagues on the medical campus, along with our partners at BJC have begun getting vaccinated. Faculty are encouraged to preregister through BJC and any other avenues. WashU will strictly follow the state guidance on vaccine roll-out.

- Salary merit increase program for faculty and staff has been reinstated and will become effective April 1.

- On February 16th at 2:00 PM the chancellor will give his State of University Address. It will be broadcast on Youtube and there will be various breakout sessions with university leaders immediately following the address.

The chancellor addressed questions related to these topics.

3. **Chair’s Report -- Vijay Ramani, Chair**

Vijay Ramani updated the FSC on the following:
• The Gender and Racial Pay Equity Committee has been commissioned and has already met once. All Danforth Schools are represented on the committee.

• Regarding the Memorial Resolution for WashU constituents who served in WW II- the University archivist has done the requisite research. Since there is no way to find the names of all WashU constituents who have served in the military, only a general reference to all those who served can be made.

4. Faculty Achievement Awards Planning – Vijay Ramani and Jennifer Smith

The 2020 Faculty Achievement awardees have been announced but not recognized in the traditional fashion due to the pandemic. The 2021 selection process is currently underway. The FSC was asked for their input on how to recognize the awardees.

Option A would be a small in-person ceremony with the awardees, chancellor, provost and a few guests. Lectures would be recorded separately and broadcast to the community.

Option B would be to wait until it is possible to have a reception where everyone can attend.

After discussion, the consensus of the FSC was to wait until an in-person reception was possible.

5. Danforth Ombuds Report – Peggie Smith

Between July 1, 2019 -June 31, 2020, the Ombud “met” with twenty different faculty members and one graduate student (visitors), which involved 32 meetings. Pre-Covid, most interactions were in person. Post-Covid meetings primarily took place via Zoom. Most visitors were from Arts & Sciences with a smattering from four other schools.

An example of matters brought to the Ombud’s Office during this period includes the following: interpersonal problems (with colleagues and superiors), questions about the tenure process, leave requests, navigating issues with Human Resources, work/family issues, and workspace allocations.

For the first time, the Ombud’s met with the Association of Teaching, Research and Practice Faculty to discuss how the Ombud’s Office can assist non-tenure, contract faculty. While these faculty have contacted the Ombud’s office in the past, there has not been a formal overview/introduction process similar to the Ombud’s presentation that occurs during the “New Faculty Orientation” for tenured and tenure-track faculty at the beginning of the academic year.

6. University College Update – Heather Corcoran
Dr. Corcoran presented an update on University College. The presentation can be found [here](#). There was discussion revolving around collaboration with other schools, instructional modality (online vs. in-person), student access and equity, equitable teaching loads for faculty from various schools who participate in U College instruction, teaching over the summer, and partnership with the engineering and medical schools.

7. **Other Business -- Vijay Ramani, Chair**

None.

8. **Executive Session -- Vijay Ramani**

An executive session started at 3:55 pm.

9. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy McBride, Secretary