

Villanova University Faculty Congress

Academic Year 2012-2013

FACULTY CONGRESS PLENARY

Meeting of October 11, 2012

**Present**: Sohail Chaudhry, Linda Copel, Mark Doorley, Rick Eckstein, Edwin Goff (Secretary), Judith Hadley, Paul Hanouna, Eric Karson, Sandy Kearney, Christopher Kilby, Julie Klein (COF Chair), Edward Kresch (Treasurer), Chad Leahy, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Victoria McWilliams (Chair), Salvatore Poeta, Bernard Reilly, Sridhar Santhanam, Gaynor Strickler, Robert Styer,.

**Absent (NIA)**: Wayne Bremser, Mary Ann Cantrell, Lillian Cassel, Joseph Dellapenna, Sarvesh Kulkarni, Michael Levitan, Mary Ann Lieb, Wenhong Luo, Barbara Ott, Paul Pasles, Paul Reagan, Louise Russo (APC Chair), Donna Shai, Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Mark Sullivan, Fayette Veverka, Catherine Warrick, Thomas Way, Randy Weinstein, Kelly Welch, Seth Whidden (Vice Chair), Joyce Willens.

Prior to the beginning of the meeting, UNIT representatives Ms. Emily Wilms and Ms. Lisa Kemble took a group photo to be posted on the Faculty Congress website. Faculty Congress members unanimously agreed to the taking of and posting of the photograph.

1. Welcome by the Chair, Dr. Victoria McWilliams, to the second meeting of Faculty Congress Plenary, 2012-2013, and indicated that the Vice Chair is attending a conference. The Chair noted that a determination will be made whether date and time for the third meeting of FCP needs to be changed, *viz.,* is lower attendance owing to fall break or time conflicts with the current schedule?
2. A Moment of Silence was observed.

1. Approval of Minutes of the September 12, 2012 Faculty Congress Plenary was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously as amended. By unanimous consent all Approved Minutes will be shared with the Office of Academic Affairs and the University President.
2. Housekeeping:

* Ms. Emily Wilms and Ms. Lisa Kemble have reconstructed the Faculty Congress Website; they also have archived minutes for Faculty Congress, Academic Policy Committee, and Committee on Faculty have been posted from AY 2010-2011 and AY 2011-2012, inclusive. The Faculty Congress memberships extends its sincere gratitude to Emily and Lisa the excellent website, and the group photograph they kindly produced and posted. All members the University community and other interested persons may access the website:

< <http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/facultycongress.html>>

* ***Spring 2013 meetings are scheduled as follows:***
  + **Faculty Congress Executive Committee (FCEC):** 
    - Wednesday, February 6: 3:00 – 4:30
    - Tuesday, March 5: lunch 12:30 – 1:30 meeting 1:30 – 3:00
    - Thursday, April 4: 3:00 – 4:30
  + **Faculty Congress Plenary (FCP):**
    - Wednesday, February 13 3:00 – 4:30
    - Tuesday, March 12: lunch 12:30 – 1:30 meeting 1:30 – 3:00
    - Thursday, April 11: 3:00 – 4:30
    - Re-organizational meeting Fri May 3: 5:00 – 8:00 in Presidents' Lounge with cocktails/dinner (*details to be determined*)

1. Dr. Robert Styer reported that an appreciable number of faculty, including members of Faculty Congress participated in the Day of Service; he will communicate this important information directly to the University President.
2. Announcements and Committee Reports:

**The Committee on Faculty (COF)**

* The Committee on Faculty is continuing its work to have academic departments address the matter of voting by full time non-tenure track faculty (FTNTT):
  + Delineating the status quo and the relative merits of differential department practices to determine what works and does not work; the completed assessment document will be disseminated as a Committee, following:
  + Scheduling open forums in November, and concluding with
  + A Final vote on November 15 by the subcommittee of COF as the representative body for faculty will conclude the disposition of the document regarding the will of COF.
* The Office of Academic Affairs has rejected the COF recommendation for review of associate deans; further deliberation is warranted.
* The COF is charged with sorting out the names sent up by Faculty Congress for Board of Trustee representation *versus* names ultimately approved by President.
* The Faculty Congress consensus is to schedule one meeting each year with faculty serving on Board committees.

**The Academic Policy Committee (APC)**

* The first meeting of the APC was on October 2, 2012 at 9:00 am in Mendel Science Center, room 103. The first order of business was to nominate and vote on the selection of Dr. Louise Russo as chair of the committee;
* The Academic Affairs website through which faculty gain access to ***all matters*** pertaining to CATS, including the APC study, “**The Effect of Demographic and Situational Variables on Undergraduate CATS Scores (Final Report June 2012)”: <**[**http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/vpaa/facultyservices.html**](http://www1.villanova.edu/villanova/vpaa/facultyservices.html)**>**
* *Updates and Plans for Activity in 2012-2013 are attached, integral to these Minutes, as an Addendum.*

**Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee *ad hoc* Report** (Dr. Julie Klein)

* Dr. Klein (Philosophy) and Dr. Timothy Brunk, (Theology), serve as the two faculty representatives on the Academic Affairs Committee; the Committee appears quite energetic.
* A series of statistics were presented at the most recent meeting; they were intended to capture the experience and success of various aspects of Villanova University. The data presented were encouraging but without sufficient context and raised many questions that OPIR will take up in the future
* The Academic Deans were invited as guests to meet with the Committee because they have the most detailed view of what's happening in the colleges; they since have been invited to join the Committee Membership.

**Full Time Non-Tenure Track faculty (FTNTT)**

* For the immediate future, FTNTT will retain its institutional name *in status quo ante.* Gay Strickler and Chad Leahy note the lack of clarity regarding whether the formal definition of the term falls to Faculty Congress or to the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

**Adjunct Faculty**

* Non-Contract Faculty (NCF) long have been at the mercy of everyone; each Department, College, School and the University needs value statements and transparent salary scales (the seniority process fails). The faculty continuum and their differing needs need to be mapped out more inclusively. An eco-system approach must be taken to provide appropriate professional identities among NCF faculty; the eco-system study must give voice to the manifestly distinct stories, ***viz.*** the narrative of **professorial titles** *versus* the narrative of **professional salaries**. The narratives, conjoined with effective, categorical statements of the humanizing contributions as the core measure of worth that NCF bring to the University Education Mission, will be of transformational import from both narratives.
* Non-Contract Faculty in their aggregate are the hub around which the various spokes of multiple needs are to be matched up with the value each brings to the University. The existing representation of adjunct faculty comprises a very small committee that does not—and simply cannot—represent the full spectrum. Bringing these matters to COF will make it a more palliative advocacy.

1. **Employment Issues Committee (EIC)**

* Faculty salary data dissemination: The Office of Planning and Institutional Research is looking into ways to track the changes following the additional amounts distributed after last year’s faculty compensation study. The EIC has sent questions to Jim Trainer, and looks forward to sharing with the Congress the responses when they are ready.
* Revision of Faculty Handbook on “Retirement”: The EIC has charged Q Chung to form a subcommittee, with as wide and diverse representation as is practical, to review the current retirement benefit as it is presented in the faculty handbook, and to see what improvements or alternatives could be proposed. The EIC looks forward to sharing with the Congress the results of this subcommittee’s hard work, for which we all are grateful.

[(8. Integrated with Agenda Item #7; (9. Integrated with Item #6; (10. Deferred to next meeting.]

**NEW BUSINESS**

{[11. (Budget for coming fiscal year) & [12. (FC election process) Deferred to next meeting.]}

13. **Communication plan**

* “local" FC representatives meet periodically with their respective Deans as an effective way that governance faculty can better inform thinking for both the Dean and Faculty Congress;
* Disseminate FCP agenda to constituencies as broadly as possible;
* Establish closer contact between FC representatives and their constituents;
* Have a (rotating) volunteer from each area send out the agenda with an explicit request/invitation to have constituents comment prior to FCP meetings;
* Have FC Secretary provide a brief summary of most recently approved minutes to accompany agenda distribution.

[(14. Guest speakers: Handbook policy vs. contract addendum from Legal - COF to look at discrepancies and make recommendation. Deferred to next meeting.]

15. No additional matters were brought to the floor for deliberation.

The Plenary adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Edwin L. Goff, Secretary

***APC MEETING ADDENDUM***

**Villanova University Academic Policy Committee**

Report

October 10, 2012

The first meeting of the APC was on October 2, 2012 at 9:00 am in Mendel Science Center, room 103. The first order of business was to nominate and vote on the selection of Louise Russo as chair of the committee.

Updates and Plans for Activity in 2012-2013:

1. New membership was provided an overview of the major action item form spring semester, the CATS data evaluation and draft of an interpretation guide for faculty and administrators was presented. Craig Wheeland indicated that the APC interpretation guide document was recently approved by the Dean’s Council and that it will soon be posted on the Academic Affairs website in the same location as the current CATS guide for new faculty. Once that material is updated, an email will be sent to all faculty directing their attention to this important information including a direct weblink.
2. The committee will continue to discuss CATS-related issues this semester with the focus being a re-evaluation of the use of quartile information in the official CATS report. .
3. Planned agenda items for upcoming meetings include the following:
   1. Updates on the progress of the Task Force on Interdisciplinary Teaching
   2. Timeline for the addition of a library representative to the APC
   3. Registrar’s policy on the number of graduate credits that undergraduates may take (as it affects B.S./M.S. programs)
   4. The University Core
4. The APC is expecting to invite a number of speakers/guests to provide updates and reviews of programs on campus. The following are likely invitees for the year:
   1. **Dr. Thomas Smith, Director of the Honors Program**: potential topics for presentation/discussion would be his vision for the Honors program, trends in acceptance of honors students across colleges and majors, effects of a more robust Honors constituent on department course offerings and faculty teaching assignments
   2. **Dr. Nancy Mott, Director, Office of Learning Support Services:** potential topics for presentation/discussion would be an overview of support services and student use trends/outcomes, limitations that affect what kinds of programs are being provided and prevent new programs from being developed
   3. **Ms. Margo Matt, Assistant Dean of Students for Alcohol and Drug Intervention**: potential topics for presentation/discussion would be trends in student support services, educational/intervention program

Members of APC: Louise Russo (chair), Wayne Bremser, Fayette Veverka, Robert Styer, Adele Lindenmeyr, Edwin Goff, Kelly Welch, Mary Ann Cantrell, Louise Fitzpatrick (represented by Lesley Perry), Joyce S. Willens, Wenhong Luo, Paul Pasles, Paul Hanouna, Kail Ellis (represented by Craig Wheeland), Jean Ann Linney, Gary Gabriele (represented by Randy Weinstein?), Patrick Maggitti (represented by Dennis Kuhn), Catherine Warrick, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Mark Doorley, Sridhar Santhanam, Aaron Moore, Jack Chong, Christine Alizzi, Caroline Kemp, Daniel Troiano, Christopher Marroletti (non-voting member), Ali Yousef, Sophie Kagan (*ex officio* non-voting member)