



VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
FACULTY CONGRESS

Academic Year 2019-2020

November 18, 2019
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm
MSC 103

Present: Alice Dailey, Andrew Scott, Christopher Kilby, Edward Wahesh, Erasmus Kersting, Eric Lomazoff, Helen Lafferty, James Peyton Jones, Jennifer Altamuro, Jennifer Ross, Judy Strzepek, Melissa Hodges, Paul Steege, Peggy Lyons, Rory Kramer, Rose Driscoll, Salvatore Poeta, Samantha Chapman, Scott Dressler, Sherry Burrell, Sohail Chaudhry, Stacey Havlik, Stefanie Knauss, Stephanie Katz, Tom Way, Travis Foster

Absent: Angela DiBenedetto, Ani Ural (NIA), Aronté Bennett, Calvin Li, Elizabeth Petit de Mange (NIA), Jacky Huang (NIA), Javad Siah, Jeremy Kees (NIA), John Paul Spiro (NIA), Mark Wilson (NIA), Marylu Hill (NIA), Michael Posner, Michele Pistone, Stephen Napier (NIA), Tim Horner (NIA), Tina Augustiady

The meeting commenced at 3:00 p.m. in Mendel 103.

Housekeeping

1. The minutes from the October 7, 2019 meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Tom announced two upcoming Executive Committee activities and invited Faculty Congress members to share any questions or concerns.
 - 11/20/19 University Council Meeting, 12-1 pm
 - 11/25/19 Faculty Congress Leadership Meeting with Provost & Vice Provost, 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Sustainability

The Faculty Congress welcomed two sets of guests to discuss issues related to sustainability.

First, Faculty Congress welcomed Al Ortega and Joseph Lennon, representing the Academics and Research Subcommittee of the Sustainability Leadership Council (SLC). Al and Joseph discussed ongoing sustainability-related initiatives and advocacy opportunities for faculty working with the SLC and elsewhere. They focused in particular on a proposal to develop an Augustinian Institute for Climate, Justice, and Sustainability. The Institute would develop educational programming, research opportunities, community outreach, and advocacy pertaining to sustainability. They requested faculty to think about the potential of such an institute and to provide suggestions. They additionally invited faculty to volunteer for a steering committee drafting a proposal for the Institute.

Second, Faculty Congress welcomed Joe Drury and Jean Lutes who discussed (1) sustainability-supportive divestment options for faculty retirement funds and (2) opportunities for faculty to encourage the University to divest its endowment from fossil fuel companies. Joe provided background pertaining to divestment aims, strategies, and successes, including at Catholic universities like Georgetown and University of Dayton. Jean shared that she has, with little success, attempted to encourage Human Resources to investigate better options for faculty to divest our own retirement funds from fossil fuel companies. There was some discussion about how Faculty Congress can become involved in various divestment proposals. A new working group on divestment was established, which Joe Drury will chair.

Standing Committee Reports (*reports submitted in advance; please see appendix; this time set aside for elevated issues and/or questions*)

1. Adjunct Faculty Representatives (Judy Strzepek, Tina Agustiady). Judy reported that the representatives will be surveying adjunct faculty about how they've been sharing materials and resources with one another. They have scheduled four quarterly meetings in the coming year.
2. Election and Credentials Committee (Q Chung incoming chair, Bob Styer outgoing chair)
3. Awards Committee (Sherry Burrell co-chair, Peggy Lyons co-chair, Andrew Scott). Sherry shared that the committee has standardized criteria and materials necessary for nominating awardees. She also shared names for the Facultas Award (see action below).
4. Research Policy Committee (RPC; James Peyton Jones, chair). James reported that the committee is working on new policies regarding project closeouts and residual balances.
5. Faculty Rights & Responsibilities Committee (FRRC; Alice Dailey, chair). Alice noted that FRRC is working on changes to the Rank and Tenure process, including precluding assistant and associate deans from serving as faculty on Rank and Tenure Committees. FRRC is also recommending changes in the Family Leave policy that will officially say that faculty on Family Leave are expected not to be on campus.
6. Retired faculty members (Rose O'Driscoll). Tom introduced that Rose has joined as the official representative to Faculty Congress.

Old Business

1. CLAS Dean's lunches with CLAS Faculty Congress representatives. There was some discussion about the purpose of these meetings, and several Faculty Congress members requested clarification about the Dean's aims in holding them.

New Business

1. Facultas Award (Awards Committee) - FC unanimously approved the Awards Committee's nominee.
2. General Protocol (James) - James provided a background of the protocol and described its central principles.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.