



AU Senate Chair's Report

Dr. Bill Sauser
February , 2013



AU Senate Officers for 2012-13

- Immediate Past Chair—Ann Beth Presley
 - Chair—Bill Sauser
 - Chair-Elect—Larry Crowley
 - Secretary—Robin Jaffe
 - Secretary-Elect—Judy Sheppard
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- Parliamentarian—Constance Hendricks
 - Administrative Assistant—Laura Kloborg



Notes on the Agenda

- We typically would be nominating new members for the Rules Committee today and electing them next month. However, there are no upcoming vacancies on the Rules Committee, so we don't need to take any action this year.
- The change in membership of the Teaching Effectiveness Committee we will vote on today is a "housekeeping" matter, but since it requires an amendment to the Senate Constitution we are bringing it forward for a formal vote.



Notes on the Agenda (Continued)

- The Faculty Handbook Review Committee is in the midst of a multi-year effort to update our Handbook. Today that committee is presenting as information “Phase Three” of that process. I am very grateful to the committee for their excellent work. To allow all faculty ample time to review and comment on the Phase Three draft (which was posted with today’s agenda) we will not bring it up for a vote until the April 2 meeting of the AU Senate.



Notes on the Agenda (Continued)

- In addition to the comments from Dr. Gogue and Dr. Boosinger we have already heard, we have an important presentation scheduled for today.
- Dean Bonnie MacEwan, on behalf of her committee, will be providing an overview of policy recommendations regarding Minors (Children) on Campus.
- Robin Jaffe will represent the AU Senate on an implementation committee for these recommendations.



Items of Information

- I reported to you last month that our excellent Ombudsperson, Dr. Jim Wohl, has accepted a similar position at another university. We appreciate his good work and wish him well.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- Dr. Emmett Winn is chairing a national search for a new Ombudsperson. A search committee is in place, and the position announcement has been prepared. Plans have also been formulated to appoint an interim Ombudsperson. The same search committee will also consider applicants for appointment as interim Ombudsperson.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- After years of dedicated service, Dr. Gramberg has resigned her position as Dean of Liberal Arts, but has graciously agreed to continue serving until her replacement is selected (thus alleviating the need for an Interim Dean).
- Dean Flowers will chair the search committee, and Dr. Larry Crowley will represent the AU Senate on that committee. Liberal Arts faculty will have several representatives on the search committee.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- The AU Senate Nominating Committee, chaired by Dr. Alice Buchanan, has identified several fine candidates for Secretary-Elect but is still looking for candidates for Chair-Elect.
- All candidates will be announced soon. The election will be held (electronically) in March and our new officers will be announced at the March 19 meeting of the General Faculty.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- The SACS-COC focused report and QEP description will be provided to the members of the On-Site Review Committee this week.
- Dr. David Hager, chair of that committee, had a productive visit to our campus on January 24 and 25. Dr. Crowley and I met with him as your representatives.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- Representatives of the AU Senate have been attending all off-campus strategic planning sessions scheduled throughout the state as part of this broad-based effort.
- On-campus strategic planning sessions are also being scheduled by the Provost's Office. Details about these sessions will be announced soon. Faculty input will help shape the plan.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- The Facilities Division has conducted a detailed study of parking issues in the core campus. Results of that study—and recommendations for action—will be shared with us by Dan King at the March 19 meeting of the General Faculty.



Items of Information (Cont'd)

- Since Commencement Exercises are scheduled for May 4 and 5 this year, the May 7 and June 4 meetings of the AU Senate will be held when many faculty will be away for the summer. The Steering Committee plans not to put “controversial” issues on the agenda for these meetings.