



Villanova University Faculty Congress
Academic Year 2016-2018

FACULTY CONGRESS MEETING
May 4, 2018

Present: Aronté Bennett, Joseph Betz, Sohail Chaudhry, Jerusha Conner, Alice Dailey, Marylu Hill, Stephanie Katz, Rory Kramer, Eric Lomazoff, Peggy Lyons, Joseph Micucci, Alan Pichanick, Michael Posner, Quinetta Roberson, Catherine Warrick, Kelly Welch, Mark Wilson, Rosalind Wynne, Tina Yang .

Absent:, Sheryl Bowen (on sabbatical), NIA), , , Danai Chasaki (NIA), Gordon Coonfield (NIA), Mirela Damian (NIA), Angela DiBenedetto (NIA), Jennifer Dixon (NIA), Rick Eckstein (NIA), Diane Ellis (NIA), David Fiorenza (NIA), Ruth Gordon, Shelly Howton (on sabbatical), Jeremy Kees (NIA), Christopher Kilby (NIA), Michael Levitan, Mike McGoldrick, Elizabeth Petit de Mangé (NIA), James Peyton-Jones (on sabbatical), Salvatore Poeta (NIA), Rees Rankin, Jennifer Ross (on sabbatical), Joseph Schick, Dennis Wykoff (on sabbatical), (NIA).

New Congress Members Present: Sarah Vaughan Brakman, Sherry Burrell, Scott Dressler, Travis Foster, Stacy Havlik, Melissa Hodges, Timothy Horner, Jacky Huang, Erasmus Kersting, Stephen Napier, Michele Pistone, Andrew Scott, Javad Siah, John Paul Spiro, Ani Ural, Melanie Vile, Edward Wahesh, Tom Way.

The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. in the President's Lounge, Connelly Center.

Housekeeping

1. Minutes from the April 6, 2018 meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved unanimously.
2. **Cords and AAUP professional development opportunities.** As a token of appreciation, Jerusha distributed cords for Faculty Congress members to wear as part of their academic regalia. She also noted that the FC budget has monies available to support professional development opportunities through AAUP.
3. **Update on SAC mold remediation.** The summary of the report on mold remediation was included with the electronic. FC member were invited to see Jerusha for the full report if interested.
4. **Update on our session with Dr. Jeff Cohen.** The report of the meeting with Dr. Jeff Cohen (included in the appendix of the FC agenda) will be sent to the provost and posted on the FC website.

Aronté Bennett, Sheryl Bowen, Joseph Betz, 1, Danai Chasaki, Sohail Chaudhry, Jerusha Conner (chair), Gordon Coonfield, Alice Dailey, Mirela Damian, Angela DiBenedetto, Jennifer Dixon, Rick Eckstein, Diane Ellis, David Fiorenza, Ruth Gordon, Marylu Hill, Shelly Howton, Stephanie Katz, Jeremy Kees, Christopher Kilby, Rory Kramer, Michael Levitan, Eric Lomazoff, Margaret Lyons, Mike McGoldrick, Joseph Micucci, Elizabeth Petit de Mange, James Peyton-Jones, Alan Pichanick, Salvatore Poeta, Michael Posner, Rees Rankin, Quinetta Roberson, Jennifer Ross, Joseph Schick, Kelly Welch, Catherine Warrick (vice-chair), Mark Wilson, Dennis Wykoff, Rosalind Wynne, Tianxia Yang

Faculty Congress Ad Hoc Committees and Task forces:

Jerusha asked if anyone was present from the Scholarly Advisory Panel (with Amanda Grannas), and whether they could comment as to any inequities in the distribution of Summer Research Funding. It was recommended that FC reach out to Amanda Grannas.

1. **Emergency Back-up Care Task Force update.** The proposal has been sent to Fr. Peter for his approval.

Current Business

1. **Vote to establish a Research Policy Committee.** Jerusha invited the old Congress members to vote on a bylaws change in order to establish a Research Policy Committee. NIAs were contacted in advance for their vote. A short discussion ensued; FC members asked whether the proposal for the RPC could still be tweaked after the vote, and the response was yes, FC would just go through the same process. A question was raised whether two-thirds of the Congress was present to vote for a bylaws change; Jerusha noted that with the addition of the NIAs who had already submitted their votes, there would be enough present. Concern was raised as to whether the RPC would deplete existing committee membership, but at present, the RPC membership would be drawn from the 6 at-large members, keeping it flexible for the new Congress. The motion was made and seconded; all 16 members present voted in favor.
2. **Discussion of Clifton StrengthsFinder and May 1 meeting.** There was a short discussion of concerns raised about the Clifton StrengthsFinder tool that will be distributed to all incoming students. One FC member noted that it sounded like the Myers Briggs test, and accordingly may not have the staying power. FC members asked about the cost of the StrengthsFinder, and whether that money might be used better elsewhere. One FC member noted that the StrengthsFinder has been useful for business settings, but it is less clear how useful it will be with undergraduates. The discussion briefly touched on how well the StrengthsFinder translated into education, since it focuses on strengths rather than development. FC felt it was not entirely clear how it would be used in the long term; it was recommended that the conversation continue with the new Congress.
3. **Discussion of Letter re. Villanova's relationship to Wells Fargo.** Jerusha opened the conversation by asking the Congress how FC should proceed, and whether it should endorse the letter. A short discussion ensued; FC members were supportive but also expressed concerns about several questions. There was support to disconnect from Wells Fargo, but it was less clear how the University could avoid using the Wells Fargo Center. Suggestions were made that the University could solicit bids from another bank provider, and seek to shift from Wells Fargo. Jerusha suggested that a line to that effect could be included in the letter. Other suggestions were made to get more background on Wells Fargo's relationship to the University, as well as more knowledge about Wells Fargo's investments. It was noted that the letter simply asks why the University maintains a relationship with Wells Fargo; it does not make any demands. It was agreed that more information was needed, and that the Committee might request a report from the President. Several FC members pointed out that the University may be locked into a contract for a certain amount of years. It was agreed the

situation was definitely worth investigating, and that it should be passed to the new Congress.

4. State of the Congress (Jerusha, Catherine, Alice, Joe, Alan).

- Alan Pichanick, as one of the two FTNTT representatives, reported that the Promotion Ladder policy for CNT Faculty is now in the Deans' Council and has been approved. The last step is approval from the Provost and Fr. President.
- Joe Micucci, representing adjunct faculty, reported that there was a survey of adjuncts with 234 responses. The adjuncts reported inconsistencies of salary, performance appraisal, and numbers of courses taught.
- Alice Dailey, chair of FRRC, reported that FRRC had successfully passed changes to the faculty handbook, including a new section of the handbook on student misconduct. FRRC creates policy to clarify and protect faculty rights, and it supports a wide range of activities.
- A concise guide to Faculty Congress was sent out electronically – thanks to Kelly Welch.
- Jerusha and Catherine reported that Faculty Congress is trusted; faculty turn to us with their concerns, and we are a group to be taken seriously by the Administration.

5. Welcome new leadership & members; mentoring moment. The baton officially passed to the new chair of FC, Tom Way. He thanked the departing members for their leadership, and he welcomed the new members. He then invited old and new members to engage in a short mentoring moment.

6. Elections of FCEC and FRRC leadership. There were unanimous elections for new FCEC and FRRC leadership. A question was raised about one of the new representatives for the adjunct faculty. The member teaches distance learning courses, and as a result is rarely on campus physically. The concern raised is about the difficulty of the FC member's participation; due to the confidentiality of certain FC discussions, use of Skype would be problematic. A short discussion ensued; concerns were raised about the need for physical presence on campus, but several FC members also noted that if we exclude DL professions, we are excluding a part of our constituency. Physical attendance at meetings is preferable, but it is not stated in the bylaws that members have to physically attend. There is no attendance requirement at present. One FC member expressed concern that it didn't seem appropriate to act as gatekeepers to keep someone out who has expressed willingness to participate. It was concluded that the loophole needs to be addressed, but it cannot apply to this particular person since s/he was already voted in.

The new FC chair thanked old and new members for attending the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by Marylu Hill, Faculty Congress Secretary (outgoing Secretary)

August 19, 2018

Aronté Bennett, Sheryl Bowen, Joseph Betz, I, Danai Chasaki, Sohail Chaudhry, Jerusha Conner (chair), Gordon Coonfield, Alice Dailey, Mirela Damian, Angela DiBenedetto, Jennifer Dixon, Rick Eckstein, Diane Ellis, David Fiorenza, Ruth Gordon, Marylu Hill, Shelly Howton, Stephanie Katz, Jeremy Kees, Christopher Kilby, Rory Kramer, Michael Levitan, Eric Lomazoff, Margaret Lyons, Mike McGoldrick, Joseph Micucci, Elizabeth Petit de Mange, James Peyton-Jones, Alan Pichanick, Salvatore Poeta, Michael Posner, Rees Rankin, Quinetta Roberson, Jennifer Ross, Joseph Schick, Kelly Welch, Catherine Warrick (vice-chair), Mark Wilson, Dennis Wykoff, Rosalind Wynne, Tianxia Yang