

Report of the UHD Faculty Senate President

For May 5, 2009

Submitted by Michelle Moosally

I reserve the right to update or highlight issues during the meeting. However, anything in these notes is fair game for follow-up questions and comment during the meeting or directly with me. Once the Senate has met, these notes, along with any comments/updates/corrections, will become part of the Senate minutes.

Upcoming Events

Dr. Castillo Appreciation Event: POSTPONED until June

Student Awards Ceremony: May 6, 6:15pm

Commencement: May 17, 2:00pm, Minute Maid Park

As this is the official changeover in Senate membership, I hope you all will join me in thanking our outgoing Senators for their tremendous efforts on behalf of all of the faculty in the past two years. And please offer ongoing support to the Senators who will carry on that important work. In this time of transition, we must remind ourselves that it is the faculty body that provides the continuity of an institution; that role demands vision and vigilance from faculty at all levels to ensure the health and growth of UHD.

President Search

Four finalists have been announced. At this stage of the process, feedback from the university community is critical. Each candidate will meet with various groups on campus, including an open forum with faculty and staff – 3:15-4:15pm on the second day of each visit. If you attend, you will be invited to complete eval forms for the committee. In addition, please share any questions/ideas/concerns with committee members about the candidates and about what strengths are most important in a new President.

Name Selection

As you know, Chairman Wilson met with the Faculty Senate as well as a student group on April 21 to discuss name selection. He indicated a strong interest in moving forward with a process that will include constituent input and assistance from a marketing firm before the Board makes a final decision (no time frame given). Dr. Castillo has confirmed that we have issued an RFP for a marketing/branding firm, apparently with initial focus on generating a list of names for consideration. Dr. Castillo has also suggested that he would like to put together a representative group (students, faculty, staff, alums) to offer guidance during the process. The specific charges of the committee and the timeline for activity have not yet been identified, but it is possible appointments will occur in the coming weeks.

Climate Survey

Faculty Assembly – please take a few minutes to complete the climate survey; the data can help guide the direction of Senate energies in the coming year(s).

System-wide Enrollment Management

VP Belbot and I have been rescheduled – we will meet next week with System Administrators Ed Hugetz and John Antel to discuss these topics; we still do not have any specific information or agenda at this time.

Governor's Initiatives

UFEC presented to the BOR on April 21; all faculty were sent copies of those presentations. We are currently soliciting faculty who are interested in participating in the System Task Force – please send me an email if you wish to be considered.