**Executive Committee Report – October 8, 2021**

We thank Provost Passerini for attending and addressing our questions.

Since our last meeting, the Executive Committee has been asked to provide the names of faculty, per Faculty Guide 12.5.c, for three committees: the search committee for the new CFO and two strategic plan implementation committees: one on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition and one on the Liberal Arts. The EC passed on the names of six nominees for the search committee on October 5 and is still verifying nominees for the two latter committees. Nominees are being selected from the Senate membership and from the list of volunteers gathered by the Executive Committee.

In response to our request, the Provost agreed to have the APC work on revisions to the current student course evaluation instrument rather than a separate committee.

We thank President Nyre and the Board of Regents for the recent announcement about salary restoration and the retroactive TIAA contributions. Given our unprecedentedly high enrollments, we will also continue to advocate for a cost-of-living increase for this year, especially in light of the anticipated increase to health care benefits costs.

On Sept. 22, Sona Patel, Mary Ellen Roberts, and I met with Erik Lillquist and Amy Newcombe. We informed them about the resolution from the special meeting of the Senate on Sept 17. We noted that we would be requesting a copy of the university budget prior to the meetings of that committee moving forward. We informed them about concerns regarding faculty dining facilities and the location of the Counseling office and that these had been referred to the Facilities Committee. We also informed them that the faculty representatives to the Benefits Advisory Committee were developing a set of questions related to health care costs.

On Oct. 4, Sona Patel, Mary Ellen Roberts, and I met with Erik Lillquist and Amy Newcombe. We asked for an update on the APSA process and received the following information:

The work of the APSA 1 committee is complete, but the group is still reviewing reports sent by programs that were charged to do so as part of the post-review process.

The APSA 2 committee report has been submitted. This committee was focused exclusively on PhD programs.

The APSA 3 committee continues to meet to tie up loose ends. This committee worked on the revised Program Review template and the dashboard for the automated annual process that will generate data to be shared with departments and programs.

The Senate is today being asked to approve the revised program review template. We will next be inviting Drs. Lillquist and Jonathan Farina to make a presentation about the automated annual review process.

The Executive Committee also forwarded additional questions about the APSA process to Drs. Lillquist and Newcombe and is awaiting a response. One of these is about Senate review of the automated annual process that has been developed.

In this meeting we also expressed concern about outstanding questions about HICT-related matters, such as the question of classroom data that we reported on in an email several weeks ago. We also sked that the weekly HICT newsletter continue to report on air quality measures being taken.

We clarified that salary restorations also apply to the SHMS faculty who were affected by the salary reduction.

We asked about the purpose of the session on shared governance at the Board of Regents retreat and were told that President Nyre wanted the Board to understand the concept of shared governance, especially in light of faculty feedback on the restructuring proposals and more generally, especially since most Board members are not from academia.

We asked about faculty accommodations for spring and were told that the Deans had been informed that requests should not be coming at the last minute. Barring unforeseen circumstances, since this was the case with some requests for fall, which led to challenges in class coverage. They will again be reviewing each request individually.

We followed up on questions we had sent about the approved hires for this year, in particular the actual number of tenure-track lines that were approved as opposed to Lecturer/contract hires, as well as how many were new as opposed to replacement lines. We have determined that the best way to acquire this information is from the individual schools, so we will be reaching out to representatives from each school/college about getting that information from their dean.

Outstanding Resolutions:

* Faculty Guide 3.3.c, 6, 7, 8, and 10: will be reviewed with the Faculty Guide Working Group.
* Online MA in Theology
* Online MPA
* Writing Major
* PhD Tuition Remission

There are three actionable items on today’s agenda:

* A resolution from the Program Review Committee asking for approval of the revised program review template
* A resolution from the faculty of the College of Education and Human Services asking for a correction to the Provost’s memo of September 28th
* A resolution from the faculty of the College of Education and Human Services asking for fiscal data relative to the decision to merge CEHS and COAR

Two communications from the September meeting agenda—the Diversity Statement and the proposed policy on Academic Freedom Outside the Classroom—remain on this month’s agenda and we again ask for comments. These should be sent to senate@shu.edu

Thank you, as always, for your work on behalf of the Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Balkun

Chairperson