To: Donna Meester, Linda Knowles

From: Chapman Greer

Date: 8.16.17

Re: Faculty Senate Steering Committee Meeting T 8.15.17

**SGA Rep Ross D’Entrement** addressed the Steering Committee on:

* Grade Exclusion Policy
* Steering Committee / Faculty Senate and IFC roundtable re: drug problem on campus

Initial Steering Committee responses (more under AA report):

* Bill Martin asked about the impact on GPA
* Brad Tuggle commended him while reconfirming that he disagreed with much of the policy
* Seth Bordner asked if the same course could be repeated multiple times (we think yes)

**President Meester**:

* Problem with UA faculty (and staff) using UA as their personal mailing address, which puts an undue burden on our personnel
  + Alternatives being explored – including rental Mailboxes at the Ferg
* 1st full Faculty Senate meeting = 3:30 on T the 22nd
  + The full senate photo will be taken at the meeting’s start
* Faculty Senate Website issues have been (and are still being) resolved by Darrin, Bob, and Sarah Miesse. Committee rosters are updated
* Reception for Dr. Bonner is being coordinated (President Meester and Dr. Bonner), with the hope of a September date. Both the current Faculty Senate and the Senate that voted on the measure will be invited.

**Vice President Donahoe**: No report (Rona was unable to attend the meeting)

Secretary Greer: No report

**AA: John Vincent and Brad Tuggle**:

* Grade Exclusion Policy
  + Discussion on draft policy forwarded to AA co-chairs by SGA VP for Academic Affairs.
  + Concerns expressed on potential grade inflation resulting from proposal
  + Steering committee previously proposed merging such a policy with “NC” grade procedure; this is not incorporated in draft proposal.
  + While steering committee expressed wanting to increase student retention,

numerous concerns expressed on draft policy.

* Faculty Handbook Appendix B will be discussed at the next AA meeting with the hope of bringing it to the Senate in September for discussion in October / vote in November.
* Faculty Handbook Task force
  + Progress dependent on the NTRC policy
    - The Faculty Handbook cannot be finalized until the NTRC policy is approved.
  + Brad Tuggle added to the task force
  + Task force will be meeting multiple times next month
    - Provost Whitaker will be included in next meeting

**CA: Community Affairs: Amy Dayton and Seth Bordner**: No report (Amy absent)

**FA: Bob Findlay and Peter Johnson**

* Bob reported that, having completed his first Concur report, he noted the sign off as to accuracy and requirement for attached documents
  + Biology has always had administrative staff fill out the report
  + Bob is concerned about liability and the additional burden to work load
    - Concur is not a UA system (in fact, Concur is now also in charge of UA’s faculty / staff salary system) but is a private vendor

**F&SG: Charlotte Herrin and Angela Benson**

* Mediation committee vote must be in accordance with the Faculty Handbook (vote in early March)
* Angela Benson clarified that Faculty Senate has no power but the Steering Committee makes recommendations to the Provost / John Vincent confirmed
* Digression: the impetus for the NTRC policy came from the Council of Deans – but we have new deans in place, resulting in our current status

**FL: Bill Martin and James Gilbreath**

* Committee will be meeting in two weeks
* James will reach out to UAH / UAB Steering Committees about intra-campus travel
  + Mandate from Chancellor Hayes
* Committee will address Family Leave and Benefits policies issues (sent to them by Rona)

**IT: Clark Midkiff and Barbara Dalbach (Clark absent)**

* Strategic Communications meeting re: new web templates
  + President Meester cited Linda Bonnin’s claim that UA would be using the same templates she’d used in Memphis and LSU and asked that those be reviewed

**R&S: Ajay Agrawal and Mike Kreger: No report**

**SA: Charlye Adams and Amy Traylor**

* SANE program moving along (foot dragger = DCH, which, like UA, is vulnerable to lawsuits)
  + Megan Rondini case has provided impetus
* Sorority recruitment started Saturday August 12th and concludes Saturday August 19th

**Reports from Other Committees**:

* **Brad Tuggle** re: STARS conference. Brad reported that much of the information concerned the tax base and Higher Ed funding.
  + Important that we have a delegation as all other campuses were represented. UA had only Brad and 4 students
  + Last weekend of July = impediment to greater attendance
* **Sarah Miesse** (not present), rep to the FRC, communicated that:
  + changes had been made to Blackboard and Tegrity
  + DUO is being implemented (mandatory for students / currently optional for faculty / staff)
    - DUO will be discussed at the full Faculty Senate meeting (Ashley Ewing – OIT)