Faculty Senate Meeting: 1.23.18

Susan Carvalho – Associate Provost / Dean of the Graduate School

Goal is to grow the graduate population from 14% to 20-22%, consistent with the Provost’s Peer Group).

* Improve the ratio of Masters to PhD students (currently 86% to 14%)
* Improve our selectivity (currently 50.6% acceptance)
* Increase our International recruitment (currently 10% of our graduate population)

President’s Report – Donna Meester:

* Interim VP of Research and Economic Development, Dr. John Higginbotham, will be an active VP, working with faculty and administration to advance the Research agenda.

Faculty & Senate Governance – Bill Martin (standing in for Angela Benson and Ibrahim Cemen):

* The Merger / Discontinuous candidates, Sandra Nichols and Geoffrey Tick, were voted in by unanimous acclimation
* The call for nominations for Faculty Ombundspersons has gone out. The deadline is February 8. Send nominations to Angela Benson
* Nominations for Faculty Senate president, vice-president and secretary are due to Ibrahim Cemen by February 12

Faculty Life – Julia Cartwright and James Gilbreath:

* Rona Donahoe will raise the issue of free faculty gym access with the Faculty Benefits Committee. The committee is discussing a possible summer pilot program
* A meeting is being schedule with VP Linda Bonnin to discuss setting up a site that provides info to new / incoming faculty

Community Affairs – Seth Bordner and Amy Dayton:

* Higher Ed Day will be held in Montgomery Feb 22, 2018. There’s room on the bus for at least one faculty member. If you have an interest in attending, please contact Seth Bordner

Financial Affairs – Bob Findlay and Peter Johnson:

* If you have any concerns with BuyBama, please send them to Bob Findlay

Other Committees – Silas Blackstock

* We’re seeking nominations for the new VP of Research and Economic Development. We’re using a search firm to send out invitations. If you have a qualified candidate for nomination, please put the name forward to Silas Blackstock (blackstock@ua.edu) or Susan Carvalho.