CU Denver Faculty Assembly Meeting

April 2nd, 2019
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm
LSC, Chancellors Conf. Room

Minutes

Attendees: Peter Anthamatten, Lonnie Schaible, Angela Gover, Lucy Dwight, Kelly McCusker, Geoff Johnson, Geeta Verma, Bruce Neumann, Jeffrey Schrader, Vivian Shyu, Rebecca Hunt, Matt Shea, Steffen Borgwardt, Sherry Taylor, Ilkyeun Ra, Linda Fried, David Bondelevitch, Tod Duncan, Cristina Gillanders, Diana White, Eric Baker, Provost Nairn, Lee Potter

12:00 PM Peter Anthamatten - CU Denver Faculty Assembly Chair
  • Meeting brought to order.

12:10 PM President Bruce Benson
  • The search had 170 names submitted, and they ended up with 17 people sitting on the search committee. There are 4 airport interviews tomorrow, 2 the next day, and hopefully end up with 1 person. President Benson would like the candidate to also be a semi-non-traditional candidate like himself. Who understands academia, as well as business.
  • The state is looking closer to early childhood education and transportation. So higher education is possibly going to take a hit in the budget process. What was looking like a good budget year for higher education is panning out to be not so good.
  • Engineering building for this campus has been identified as the one project that we really need. President Benson believes that this building will be back on the agenda next year.
  • A four-billion dollar fundraising campaign has just been announced. It is important that you continue to push for bigger numbers.
  • It doesn’t look like schools are going to be shut down in our state. CU isn’t interested in taking over other universities but they are interested in creating partnerships.
  • There is talk about getting rid of the Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TaBoR) refunds. This would be great for the university.
  • The Faculty Assembly presented Bruce with a framed photo of CU Denver in appreciation of his work.

12:30 PM Roderick Nairn, Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
  • The budget is going to be hard to finalize with all of the moving parts. But as we get information, we will be passing it along.
  • An interim Dean for the business school has been appointed, and that search will be starting soon.
  • VC for Research search committee has identified a group of finalists. The next phase is the two-day interviews on both campuses. They would like to finish that by May.
- The VC for Faculty Affairs search committee is moving along. They are hopefully identifying finalists by the end of April.
- They are coming up with interim strategies for Brenda Allen and Raul Cardenas’ positions. Both are leaving at the end of April.
- We did not get the funding for the proposed engineering building.

12:30 PM  **Lesley Smith, CU Regent at Large**
- They are going to be locked away this weekend discussing the presidential search.
- Two of the Regents have seen all of the candidates as they were on the initial search. Now the rest of the Regents have seen all of the candidates as they were on the initial search. Now the rest of the Regents will deliberate on the search.
- Lesley would love to see the board be more data and fact-based driven. She is pushing for the board to be less partisan.

12:30 PM  **Jeff Franklin, Associate Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Experiences**  
**Linda Bowman, Vice Provost / Senior Vice Chancellor for Student Access and Achievement**
- There are a dozen universities nationwide that are undertaking reforms.
- Making a purposeful program choice. It is important to us that our students are making a thoughtful, and purposeful major choice from the start. We want our undeclared students to make a meta-major choice by 30 credit hours. We also want our students to declare a major by 40 credit hours.
  - In order for students to complete their gateway math course, they have to have a meta-major or major declared.
- The Meta-major is an advising tool that doesn’t stay with the student forever.
- We lose 2/3 of our undeclared students between their first fall and their second fall.
- 50% of incoming students are undeclared.

12:58 PM  **Peter Anthamatten – Chair of the Faculty Assembly**
**Chairs Report**
- Motion to approve March minutes: Vivian Motions, David Bondelevitch seconds.
  - Minutes unanimously approved.
- Peter will be sending out a notice regarding changes to the bylaws prior to voting.
- The elections are approve or disapprove, please return ballots to Lee.
- They are creating a Faculty Assembly Award.
- The Chancellor has issued the student grade forgiveness initiative.

1:40 PM  **Frida Silva – Vice President of SGA**
- SGA is creating one last proposal to create a fulltime undocumented student coordinator.
- They are also hoping to create a program that would provide free menstrual products in all CU Denver Restrooms. They have calculated that the funds are available, so they are hoping for backing from the Faculty Assembly.

2:00 PM  **Meeting Adjourned**