Villanova University Faculty Congress

Academic Year 2011-2012

Meeting on October 20, 2011

Present: Chigi Akoma, Mary Ann Cantrell, Sohail Chaudhry, Q Chung, Rick Eckstein, James Glasgow, Christopher Haas, Judith Hadley, Eric Karson, Edward Kresch, Michael Levitan, Victoria McWilliams, Paul Pasles, Bernard Reilly, Joseph Schick, Nancy Sharts-Hopko, Gaynor Strickler, Robert Styer, Fayette Veverka, Maggie Wang, Kelly Welch, Seth Whidden, Peter Zaleski

Absent & NIA: Wayne Bremser, Linda Copel, Joseph Dellapenna, Rosario Drago, John Groch, Sarvesh Kulkarni, Susan Mackey-Kallis, Letizia Modena, Barbara Ott, Michael Pagano, Elizabeth Petit de Mange, Salvatore Poeta, Paul Rosier, Louise Russo, Sridhar Santhanam, Mark Sullivan, Thomas Way, Joyce Willens, Farid Zamani

1. Welcome and luncheon (Faculty Dining Hall, 12:30 PM.)
2. Invocation (Devon Room in Connelly, 1:30 PM.)
3. Amendment of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Faculty Congress

The members of the committee that oversaw changes to the Constitution and Bylaws were Q Chung, James Glasgow, Ed Kresch (chair), and Robert Styer. Ed Kresch introduced the amended document and discussed the substantive changes. Voting was delayed as a result of the number in attendance not being sufficient to pass the changes; two-thirds of the entire body must vote favorably to pass this change. The members present reviewed the changes, point-by-point. During the discussion some issues were raised, leading to some corrections or changes in the language in the amended document.

A motion was made to change the language in the proposed Bylaws, Article I, Section 1, Paragraph f, to make this point deal specifically with permanent vacancies in the position of Chair. The motion passed.

To revise “vacant” to read “permanently vacant” to note that the office becomes vacant for the remainder of the term rather than temporarily vacant.

A motion was made to change the language in the proposed Bylaws, Article I, Section 2, Paragraph d, to make this point deal specifically with permanent vacancies in the position of Vice Chair. The motion passed.

To revise “vacant” to read “permanently vacant” to note that the office becomes vacant for the remainder of the term rather than temporarily vacant.

A motion was made to add a section in the proposed Bylaws in Article III that enumerates the roles and responsibilities of the Academic Policy Committee. The motion passed.

“Section 6. The Academic Policy Committee.

a. The faculty constituent of the Academic Policy Committee shall consist of the sixteen elected faculty members who are members of the Academic Policy Committee of the University Senate, six of whom are also University Senators. The committee shall elect its chair.

b. The Academic Policy Committee shall have the authority to recommend policy in academic matters affecting more than one college.”

A motion was made to replace the entire section of the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 1, to specify that the election of the Vice Chair takes place near the end of a two-year session of the Faculty Congress, that this person is to be elected from the ranks of the current session by the members of the body, and that this election precedes the general election. The motion passed.

“The Faculty Congress shall elect the incoming Vice Chair in even numbered years in the early spring of the year in which they are to take office, but no later than March 15.”

Furthermore, a motion was made to add a section with the following content, for election of Secretary and Treasurer as the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 5, in order to specify the timing of elections of the remaining officers of the Faculty Congress. The motion passed.

 “At its first meeting in the spring of even numbered years, the Faculty Congress shall elect the Secretary and Treasurer.”

In addition, the following motions were made for clarification. The motions passed.

Bylaws, Article I, Section 4 … To correct the section number from 5 to 4.

Bylaws, Article III, Section 1 … To remove definite article “The” from the section title for consistency.

Bylaws, Article III, Section 3 … To remove definite article “The” from the section title for consistency.

Bylaws, Article III, Section 3, Paragraph b … To add “the University Rank and Tenure Committee, and other committees as appropriate” to the first sentence.

Bylaws, Article III, Section 5, Paragraph b … To replace “Vice President for Academic Affairs” with “chief academic officer”.

4. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Schick

Secretary of the Faculty Congress