

## Faculty Senate

### Year End Committee Report 2021-2022

**Committee:** Faculty Life

**Chair(s):** Katherine Hartmann & ML Sandoz

**Members:** Dietmar Bisch, Tamarya Hoyt, Dan Levin, Jami Miller, Bruce Morrill, Florence Sanchez, and Tracey George.

**EC Liaison:** Mark Magnuson

**Standing Charge:** To be concerned with policies relating to wages and salaries, fringe benefits, management of investments, employment of non-academic personnel, faculty intellectual property including copyrights and patents, buildings and grounds, space, campus communications, traffic, parking, food services, and campus security.

#### Focused Charges for this Academic Year

1. Assess standing charges of the committee. Do they place sufficient emphasis on research and educational activities? Propose motions as appropriate.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - The charge is too large and contains items that are not part of faculty life and/or items beyond our authority to change. Recommend modifying the charge to eliminate management of investments, traffic, food services, and campus security.
2. Work with SPAF and Senate Affairs committees to consider the need for a new standing committee, or a change in the charge of a current committee, that would monitor on an ongoing basis the academic relationship between the VU and VUMC.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - No actions or recommendations.
3. Develop recommendations for how best to utilize new Faculty Commons space.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - The Faculty Commons opened this year. Faculty have access to the building 8-5 and can reserve meeting spaces or use the Faculty Lounge on a drop in basis.
  - Few activities were held in the Faculty Commons because of the COVID restrictions that were in place for most of the year.
  - Two suggestions for future faculty events to be held in that space include financial planning seminars and tuition benefits seminars.

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4. Examine whether the intellectual proper rights of faculty for digital works is adequately defined.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - No actions or recommendations.
  
5. Make recommendations pertaining to the termination of faculty from one role who hold dual roles as both faculty and administrators.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - No actions or recommendations.
  
6. Recommend specific formal relationships that would enable direct faculty input into Faculty Affairs in both VU and VUMC.
  - Actions, outcomes and/or recommendations:
  - Presented a resolution requesting VU and VUMC reports about ways to address:
    - i. Faculty salary inequities
    - ii. Healthcare cost/payment tier inequities
    - iii. Benefit package assessment

### **Suggestions for Future Charges/Actions**

1. Follow up on reports from passed resolutions (Salaries, Cost Tiers, Benefits).
2. Plan programming/events for the Faculty Commons