

YU Faculty Council
December 16, 2016
Minutes

Present: Neer Asherie (YC), David Carlson (CSL), Linda Carroll (Katz), Gabriel Cwilich (YC), Marina Holz (SCW), Avri Ravid (Syms), Leslie Salzman (CSL), Charles Swencionis (Ferkau).

Present for open session: Selma Botman, Jake Harmon, Josh Joseph, and Michael Strauss (Syms)

Selma Botman reported on the following items:

The University is relaunching Digital Measures. The University would like to hear from faculty regarding the platform—how to enhance its usability and maximize its use. Dr. Sun in the Provost's Office will help faculty with any issues they encounter.

Yeshiva is has had a successful relationship with Ellucian, but that relationship will be ending and now Yeshiva will be bringing grant management in-house. The University is beginning 2 searches, one for Director of Graduate Enrollment and one for Director of Grant Management. For purposes of grant management, Yeshiva will hire a Director of Grant Management and then determine whether another person is needed to manage the pre- and post-award grant responsibilities.

A representative from the Fulbright Program will be coming to Yeshiva to discuss program opportunities for faculty.

Julie Auster is seeking faculty representatives for the benefits committee.

Will want short bios from faculty

CFO Jake Harmon gave a financial report. He explained that the University has reduced its overall structural deficit from 2015 to 2016. They have monetized the bond from Einstein to reduce debt by approximately \$100 million. The University will continue to save some money from cost-cutting, the emphasis will now be to try to increase revenue by developing programs, increasing enrollment, and developing the Katz school associate's degree program.

Senior VP Josh Joseph also reported on the state of the University. He also stated that the University would continue to try to cut administrative costs, but that there would be efforts to raise money by focusing on four areas of finances:

1. Philanthropy, with some effort to raise money for academic chairs;
2. Endowment- the Board's investment committee is seeking counsel from trustees and other financial experts to ensure that all of our monies are invested appropriately;

3. Auxilliary revenue sources- use of real estate- maximize every source
4. Increase tuition revenue by increasing the number of students and increasing net tuition revenue/student. The University will be seeking to start or grow new programs. For example, the Speech Pathology Graduate Program was recently accredited and accepted 25 students.

It was noted that both Neer Asherie and Gabe Cwilich will be on leave next semester and will likely need replacements on the FC.

The University benefits committee is seeking faculty representatives. It currently consists of Jane Gonzalez, Avi Lauer, Tabatha salatsza (Jake Harmon's office), Mark Stern (Director of Career Services), and Neer Asherie. Neer recommend that we find one faculty member from the FC (this may be Neer if he can continue serving while on leave) and one other faculty member. The Benefits Committee generally meets once/semester.

This past year the Benefits Committee improved the network covered by the University Health Plan and secured transportation benefits.

There was a discussion about benefits-related issues of importance to the faculty, with some consensus that we should continue to focus principally on salary and retirement benefits.

Gabriel Cwilich initiated a discussion on the importance of FC contact with new University President, beginning next semester.