Faculty Senate Meeting

February 05, 2018

Quorum called at 4:32 pm

**Present:**

* Gayane Barseghyan
* Michael Andrews Bashan
* Norayr Ben-Ohanian
* David Davidian
* Gagik Gabrielyan
* Christian Garbis (for 30 minutes)
* Aram Keryan
* Irshat Madyarov
* Agassy Manoukian
* Nshan Matevosyan
* Jenny Paturyan
* Arto Vaun

**Absent**

* Hrant Davtyan
* Fanis Varvoglis
* Varduhi Petrosyan (excused)

**Guests**

* Provost Rhodes

**Agenda:**

* Approval of the current agenda
* Approval of the previous meeting minutes
* Faculty Affairs Committee: finalizing the discussion of the minimal class size
* Amendments to FS by-laws
* General Assembly
* Faculty Senate attendance and overall image
* AOB

**Notes:**

* Modifying the agenda: combining the “Amendments” and the “FS attendance” issues. Agenda approved with these modifications
* Minutes of the December 6th meeting approved
* Minutes from the last week (meeting without quorum) to be sent around for approval together with today’s meeting’s minutes
* Class size policy. Consensus within the Faculty Affairs Committee that the minimum numbers should be lower. Provost: the numbers are unrealistic for our reality. Long discussion. What is the basis for choosing minimal numbers? Pedagogy, benchmarking, overall cost break-even points. 10 for undergraduates and 6 for graduates are the numbers the Senate agrees on. Suggestion about adding a sentence regarding maximum class size being more strictly enforced in order to ensure that other courses meet their minimum size requirements. The committee will make the last small changes and send the document to the Senate for e-vote approval
* FS attendance issue. 6 people resigned, 2 are already replaced. **Action point:** need to notify the chairs and initiate the election for the at-large replacement. A broader discussion about restructuring the representation, perhaps shifting to college-based, rather than program-based representation.
* Nshan presents the few changes to the charter that we already have verbalised. Unanimous approval of those, other things to work on. The Charter, not just the By-Laws needs to change to make the wording consistent.
* General assembly: focus on evaluation question, rather than admissions issue. Have admissions as a Senate discussion topic, inviting relevant people and encouraging faculty to attend. In addition to evaluation, solicit other topics. **Action point:** send a doodle poll, asking for topics and also asking for prefered date: before or after the spring break.

Meeting ended at 17:50

Minutes taken by Jenny Paturyan

**Addendum to minutes**: The revised version of the Class Size policy has been approved by Faculty Senate with an absolute majority (14 -1) via the e-vote. Results were announced by email on Feb 18, 2018.