

Emory University Faculty Council Meeting Summary

The Faculty Council serves as the chief representative body of the faculty. Its membership includes elected and appointed faculty members representing all nine of Emory's schools and colleges.

Criminal Background Check

Del King and Mindy Simon from Human Resources presented a policy to require background check on all new faculty hires and those faculty who work with minors. King explained this policy will minimize legal liability and ensure a safe campus and equity among faculty and staff, noting that Emory medical faculty and all staff hires have been subject to background checks since the late 1990s. There was discussion about why the policy didn't include examples of criminal activity that could prove disqualifying for new faculty applicants. **UFC Motion:** To endorse the new policy, but that Emory HR present the types of issues/crimes that would raise cause for review. The motion passed: 10 in favor; two opposed; three abstentions.

Communication Infrastructure III

School of Nursing (SON) Representative Deb Bruner presented an organizational chart showing how faculty governance works in the SON. An elected faculty convener serves a two-year term and works with the dean and faculty to facilitate the work of the faculty. Faculty meet once a month, and the meetings are well attended. Other communications are handled via: SON intranet; Trumba calendar system; websites; social media; and e-news/email. **Rollins School of Public Health (RSPH)** Representative Carla Berg presented a shared governance chart for RSPH. Communications at RSPH are handled much the same as the SON, including webpages, listservs at the school and department level, and TV screens posted throughout the schools. Berg, who also serves on RSPH's Faculty Council, agreed that whoever represents RSPH on the UFC needs to have an ex-officio position in RSPH Faculty Council. **Oxford College** Representative Nichole Powell summarized how Oxford holds regular monthly faculty meetings. Standing committees report monthly, so faculty have the opportunity to review and appeal committee actions. Powell said that her (UFC) report is on the agenda for the Oxford faculty meetings each month. **Emeritus College Representative** Holly York reviewed the role and mission of the Emeritus College, along with its organizational structure. The college communicates with members largely by newsletter, and news from UFC meetings is taken to the executive committee; UFC summaries are also shared in the newsletter.

Faculty Counselor Reports

Faculty Counselors serve on Emory University Board of Trustees committees and bring reports to the Faculty Council. Three Faculty Counselors presented reports on their respective committees: Henry Bayerle reported on attending **Academic Affairs Committee** sessions and discussed the recent annual Trustees seminar presented by distinguished Emory faculty. Karen Stolley reported on attending the **Campus Life Committee**, which addresses all matters related to student services and programs. February's meeting included discussions on the Campus Life strategic plan; the split between the GSGA and the SGA; the new Campus Life Center; and an update on the Greek Life Task Force. Jim Hughes discussed the kinds of issues the **Real Estate, Buildings and Grounds Committee** grapples with, including recommendations for the construction, demolition and naming of buildings, acquisition and disposition of property, review of feasibility studies and sustainability reports, and maintaining contact with the Clifton Community Partnership.

TPAC Implementation Committee

Deb Bruner updated the UFC on the Tenure and Promotion Advisory Committee (TPAC) Implementation Committee's work. The new TPAC will be composed of 12 elected voting members, eight school-based members elected by school faculty, and four at-large members; members will serve three-year terms. Those currently serving on the PAC will complete their terms as members of the TPAC; a regular election cycle will begin in 2019. Calls for nominations for seven new committee members will go out in anticipation of an April election. Orientation and training for TPAC members will begin in August 2017, and the TPAC should be fully operational by September 2017.

Faculty Club Task Force

Following up on last month's UFC motion to endorse the creation of a faculty club at Emory, Wendland called for volunteers to form a task force to come up with a plan to envision what this space might look like. Pamela Scully, David Lynn and Kristy Martyn volunteered to serve on the task force and to report back to the Faculty Council at the April meeting.

Remarks from the Provost

Interim Provost Zola summarized the multiple searches under way at Emory for several top administrative positions, including university provost, dean of Emory College, executive vice president for business administration, vice provost for enrollment management, and dean of the School of Medicine. Candidates are now coming to campus for visits and will be for several months.

Remarks from the President

President Sterk also addressed progress in filling key campus openings. There will be a call for campus engagement in the evaluation of final provost candidates. Finalists will eventually be introduced at campus town halls. In other developments, Sterk said that the President's Cabinet has been replaced by the President's Leadership Council.

For details of the meeting, see the complete [Faculty Council Minutes](#)

