

University Faculty Council Meeting Summary

November 15, 2016

3:15 – 5:00 PM

Jones Room, Woodruff Library

(Meeting minutes on <http://facultycouncil.emory.edu/meetings/2016-2017/index.html>)

Announcements and Updates

- **2017 Distinguished Faculty Lecturer** The 2017 Distinguished Faculty Lecture will be delivered by Professor Rafi Ahmed of Department of Microbiology and Immunology on Tuesday, February 7, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in Winship Ballroom (Dobbs University Center).
- **UFC Title VII and Title IX Working Group** Pamela Scully updated the UFC about the progress of this new group formed in October 2016 to address the concerns of UFC members around the potential impairments of academic freedom in the classroom and the relationship between faculty and students under Title IX and Title VII policies. They all have read the AAUP (American Association of University Professors) report on *The History, Uses, and Abuses of Title IX*, and she listed recommendations of the report upon which the members generally agree. Two of these recommendations are 1) university policies should not require all faculty as reporters under Title IX, and 2) they should separate speech and conduct in Title VII.
- **Research Administration Services (RAS) Task Force** Representing the RAS Task Force, Deborah Bruner (for Tamara Caspary, Chair) updated the UFC members about the RAS report endorsed by the UFC in September. Although there has been no response from the Director of RAS, the group met with Interim Provost Zola in October 2016. Zola assured them the report is being discussed at the level of university administration. The task force has been working with Vice Provost Lanny Liebeskind to explore ways to establish an ongoing mechanism for continuous faculty engagement about these issues. Interim Provost Zola added the university administration has already worked through four out of six pieces of their planned course of action for responding to the RAS Task Force Report, and he hopes to bring the outcome to the January 2017 UFC meeting.
- **Faculty Peer Mediation and Conflict Resolution Task Force** Representing this task force, Kristy Martyn updated the UFC members about the work of the group. It has met and reviewed past UFC meeting minutes since 1995. It found evidence for the need for services, but not much for real action mediations. The group checked 24 peer institutions and found that all of them have Ombuds and Mediation services. Martyn said 42 Emory University faculty members have already completed a 28-hour training for being able to serve in such a service. Current issues under discussion in the Task Force include publicizing mediation services, staffing of the mediation program, skill set (e.g., conflict coaching), the lack of a program assistant, and the lack of coordination with faculty staff assistance program (FSAP) and other groups.

Pre-Texts: an encounter with engaged and collaborative pedagogy Violla Hartfield-Méndez and Pamela Scully from the Center for Faculty Development and Excellence led a workshop for UFC members based on the “Pre-Texts,” which is a pedagogical approach that distills theoretical approaches to literature and community-based engagement strategies into a simple protocol that fosters close reading of texts, creativity, and civic agency. During this interactive demonstration, Violla Hartfield-Méndez and Pamela Scully introduced the UFC members to the basic components of “Pre-Texts,” and UFC members participated in some “Pre-Texts” activities. Hartfield-Méndez and Scully also engaged in “meta-commentary” to provide details about this approach, how it works to build engagement between different disciplines, and how it develops collaboration within groups that work and/or teach and learn together.