MEETING MINUTES
UVA Faculty Senate
Tuesday, February 9, 2016
3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Newcomb Hall Commonwealth Room

Meeting commenced at 3:30 p.m.

Welcome, Introduction, and Updates — Nina Solenski, Chair
• Dr. Solenski provided the Senate with the following updates:
  o A message was sent out in January reminding all employees that they must complete an online
    training module regarding UVA’s new Policy on Sexual and Gender-Based Harassment and Other
    Forms of Interpersonal Violence. Each employee had until February 6 to complete part one of
    the training module. Part two will be sent to employees 30 days after the completion of part
    one.
  o General Faculty Senate elections are underway in the schools. Deans have been notified of the
    open seats and are to inform the Senate of their new representatives no later than March 4.
  o Nominations for the Faculty Senate Nominations Committee are due to Dr. Solenski by February
    11. The charge of this committee is to develop a slate of candidates including one nominee for
    Chair-Elect and two nominees for each outgoing “at large” officer on the Executive Council. This
    committee has five members: the immediate Past Chair, who serves as committee chair; the
    Chair-Elect; and three members appointed by the Chair from the Senate at large with a
    maximum of one who may be a member of the Executive Council.
  o The Faculty Senate By-Laws Committee has been asked to prepare a report of its
    recommendation by March 15 and present it to the Executive Council in April. The members of
    the task force are Edmund Kitch, former Faculty Senate chair; Donna Chen, Senator from the
    School of Medicine; Walt Heinecke, Senator from the Curry School of Education; Robert Kemp,
    former Faculty Senate chair; and Michiko Wilson, Senator from the College and Graduate School
    of Arts & Sciences. Email suggestions to the task force at bylawssuggestions@virginia.edu.
  o The Third-Annual General Faculty Council-Faculty Senate Dinner will take place on March 20.
    Martin Davidson, Senator from the Darden School of Business, will address the participants on
    the topic of diversity.
  o Senators who wish to highlight a faculty colleague who demonstrates successful interdisciplinary
    research or collaboration are asked to contact Dr. Solenski.
  o Senators with ideas for a “Flash Friday” informal talk on an academic topic with fraternity
    members are asked to contact Ben Gorman, president of the Inter-Fraternity Council.

Remarks by President Teresa Sullivan
• In light of the recent winter storm, the President reviewed the steps the University takes when deciding
  whether to cancel classes due to bad weather.
• The President provided the Senate with the following updates:
The University received the largest number of early-action applicants in its history, more than 16,768. This is a 4 percent increase from last year. The University accepted 5,193 prospective students, which is a 31 percent early-offer rate. Among those accepted are 370 first-generation students. Those offered admission have until May 1 to accept their offers.

The annual Community MLK Celebration recently wrapped up. Due to the snowstorm, a few events had to be cancelled or rescheduled. Among those events was the keynote address by Alicia Garza, social activist and co-creator of the viral hashtag and movement #BlackLivesMatter. This event has been rescheduled for February 26, 6:00 p.m., in Old Cabell Hall.

Nominations for the annual John T. Casteen III Diversity-Equity-Inclusion Leadership Award are due February 19.

The Board of Visitors will meet February 18 and 19. The topics to be discussed include diversity, upperclassmen housing, the bicentennial celebration, and the Third Century campaign. The President will also give an update on the progress on the Cornerstone Plan.

The following searches are underway:

- Vice President for Advancement: The search committee will meet twice in March, first for an update on the developing candidate pool and then to review the final candidates. First-round interviews will take place in April.
- Vice Provost for Research: This position, previously known as the vice president for research, has been redefined as a vice provost, who will report to the provost. The title change reflects the fact that we are looking for a senior faculty member and thought leader who will be fully integrated with academics. Stakeholder interviews were conducted with every school, and broad outreach is now under way, with a number of nominations already received. Strong internal and external candidates are expected to apply.
- Dean of the School of Architecture: First-round interviews have already taken place, and second-round interviews started two weeks ago.
- UVA Librarian: The search committee met two weeks ago and will meet again later this month to review the candidate pool. First-round interviews will take place in March.
- Chief Human Resource Officer: Search firms were interviewed two weeks ago. The search committee has not yet been finalized.

- The President noted that she will visit Asia from May 25 through June 2. Among the destinations are Singapore, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Beijing, and Tokyo.
- The President noted that she participated in two presidential panel discussions at the annual meeting of the Philosophical Society of Texas. The two panel sessions focused on the changing financial model for higher education and how technology is changing higher education.
- The President fielded questions from the Senate—including those about the pending state budget and other legislation potentially affecting the University.

**Academic Affairs Committee Discussion and Vote — George Cohen, Committee Chair**

- The School of Continuing and Professional Studies proposed to eliminate the technology leadership certificate.
VOTE: Senate unanimously approved the proposal.

Presentation about UNLEASH Undergraduate Research Program — Parth Patel, Technology and Advising Committee Chair of the Undergraduate Research Network; Joel Hockensmith, Associate Professor

- Mr. Patel provided an overview of UNLEASH, a program managed by the Undergraduate Research Network to match undergraduate students with research opportunities sponsored by faculty members.
  - The UNLEASH website uses a data management instrument named Curvita. Faculty members can update their research faculty directory listing, which displays on the website, using this system so that student may connect with them regarding research in their discipline.
  - Recent disciplines added to UNLEASH include biomedical sciences and psychology. Computer science, engineering, and humanities will be added soon.
  - Faculty members may use UNLEASH to post information to recruit for research positions and post-doc students.
- Mr. Hockensmith noted that UNLEASH was an idea borne out of the School of Medicine which the Provost has requested be rolled out to all schools. This transition is currently in progress.

Presentation from Black Student Alliance — Aryn Frazier, President

- Ms. Frazier provided an introduction to the Black Student Alliance and an overview of Towards a Better University, the organization’s April 2015 report.
  - The report focused on four areas of interest: “Culture of Truth,” “Elimination of Abuses,” “The Proper Allocation of Resources,” and “Increasing the Black Presence at UVA.” (Note: More information may be found in the report’s executive summary, which was distributed at the meeting.)
- Ms. Frazier fielded questions from the Senate—including those about how faculty may help the BSA’s efforts, the BSA’s coordination with other student groups, and its efforts to engage alumni.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes — Nina Solenski

- Dr. Solenski presented minutes from the Dec. 14, 2015, Faculty Senate meeting for approval.
  - VOTE: Senate unanimously approved the minutes.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.