Ad Hoc Committee on A&S Faculty Governance
Meeting Notes
October 31, 2016
Present: Gupton, McCulley, Baughan, Mifsud, Goddu, Abreu
Guests: Patrice Rankine and Kathy Hoke

Interviews with Dean Patrice Rankine and Dr. Kathy Hoke (Chair of DAC)

Dean Patrice Rankine - Comments
Two points strike him:
1. The School of Arts and Sciences has experience with shared governance from which to draw upon, through Faculty Council, governing bodies within A&S and the new University Faculty Senate.
2. Existing governance comes out of particular histories, which should be kept in mind moving forward.

With these points in mind, things to consider:
1. A&S need to develop a set of by-laws.
2. Solid committee structure and faculty oversight of those committees is needed.
3. Synergy with the University Senate is needed.
4. How do chairs fit in to shared faculty governance?
5. What are the roles of administrators and the relationships between administrators and faculty?
6. In a senate structure, would T & P report to the University Faculty Senate?
7. What kinds of committees should be considered? Important committees to consider in a new structure include: Equity and Diversity committee, Nominations, Student Affairs/Grade appeals, Budget committee, etc. Do we need a committee on Creativity and Innovation? One issue that keeps coming to DAC is the need to deliberate about and fund creativity and innovation. If we developed a committee on creativity and innovation we would have a place to see where our new ideas go, to have a possible budget that could vet innovations that faculty want to try, such as the Humanities initiative.
8. Strategic Planning could be part of the benefits of a new structure (e.g. Curriculum and Curriculum Revision). How could these new governance
structures be involved in strategic planning? Typically these committees are separate from strategic planning, but we might design them to work together. How are other schools using a governance structure for strategic planning? Role of committees with a strategic plan? A&S have never had a plan based on university’s strategic plan.

9. Problems with current governance include a lack of structure and lack of clarity around structure we do have. For example, groups/committees tend to be advisory and there is currently not a true council of chairs.

10. Curious to know about desire of A & S to lean into the differences between our schools and the School of Arts and Sciences?

11. The Dean suggested that we have a detailed recommendation for faculty in Spring, perhaps offering three models, such as our preferable model for UR based on our research is X, a lesser model is Y, at minimal is Z. Include an outline of a structure, simple functions and possible structures with possible functions. Should we consider hiring a consultant to draft by-laws?

Kathy Hoke (Current Chair of DAC) - Comments
DAC is legislated by Faculty Council and its primary purpose is making budgetary recommendations to the Dean. DAC consists of eight faculty members serving staggered three-year terms including A&S faculty representatives on the Planning and Priorities Committee, one interdisciplinary program coordinator, and one department chair from each of the three tripartite divisions. The A&S faculty directly elect the A&S faculty representatives to the Planning and Priorities committee with one representative from each of the quadripartite divisions. The interdisciplinary program coordinators select one member of their group to serve on the Dean’s Advisory Council. Department chairs within each of the tripartite divisions select one member of their group to serve on the Dean’s Advisory Council. In its early formation, it was a budget committee, but it has emerged over the years with by-laws and a faculty chair. This growth is a good example of a committee creation and the emergence of further development. A shortcoming of DAC is that it is not organized for long-term planning. The group focuses on responding to the idea of the moment.

Closing Comments:
The Ad Hoc Committee on Shared Governance will report to the faculty at
the December 8 faculty meeting. We will present our recommendation at one of the spring faculty meetings, such as Feb. 23, Mar. 23, or Apr. 3.