The meeting was called to order at 10:30am

The minutes from February, 2017 were approved, seconded, and passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Todd Eicker and James Frick of the Enrollment Management Group from the Office of Graduate Admissions will be attending the March Assembly meeting to discuss graduate enrollment.

SPEAKER

- Jacob Rooksby, JD/PhD on TAP 40 Revisions- The main goal was to clarify TAP 40’s ambiguities in a way that is intended to be comprehensive, clear, and fair in order to prevent future issues. Faculty owns copyrights and Duquesne will only claim copyright ownership when appropriate. For example, online course material is owned by the University because online courses can essentially “run themselves”. The University owns content but typically the rights default to the faculty member except in a few certain instances. Faculty members may deposit work in the institutional repository. Students’ work is not owned by the University.

- Content has been rearranged but not a lot has been completely changed. The next steps will be to receive feedback and then present to the provost on behalf of the committee. The draft has not yet been shared with the provost but the committee sees the draft as an improvement.

OLD BUSINESS

- Campus Climate Survey Update- Everyone (but librarians) received the HERI survey in an email and so it will be re-sent to the librarians after the meeting. The HERI email is anonymous but it can only be completed once because everyone has a unique address. A faculty listserv message will also be sent out soon. This survey is shorter, which will hopefully encourage more people to participate.

- Faculty Handbook Update- The committee is meeting twice this week. Provost Austin has been working tirelessly on the handbook for three years and the final draft should be sent out by the end of this month. TAPs will not circumvent the handbook, because both are being revised. TAPs are not supposed to trump the faculty handbook and by the end of the month that will be in writing. Other concerns that were addressed include
application for extended tenure, benefits, pay, and transparency, cost of living and merit pay. Comparative option and benchmarking against other programs around the country has been difficult because it is a challenge to get financial information from other schools. Pay structure was discussed and a suggestion was made that guidelines should be included in the handbook and each individual school should outline their own procedures in their own handbooks. Father Sawicki, Chair of the Academic Affairs sub-Committee of the Board of Directors, has been in communication with Provost Austin.

- **Senate Assembly Resolution on DU Press/DU Press Closure Update/Provost’s February Address to Faculty Assembly**- Meetings have been held and some solutions have been brought up, but the issue is still being discussed. The Senate’s Resolution was passed.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Pay Cycle "bump" Survey Results**- The results were exactly 50/50 as to the question of whether to spread the lower pays out evenly or to skip a pay. Dr. Burrows communicated this result to John Greeno, the Director of HR.

- **University Budget Committee**- The University is in good fiscal shape but has comparatively low federal grant overhead. 98% tuition driven. Graduate enrollment steadily declining. We need new masters and certificate enrollment. Duquesne’s high bond ratings can become a problem if enrollment drops.

- **Palumbo Center Renovations and Athletic Program Fundraising**- A story was released online that said Duquesne is eager to grow the athletics department and will spend $40 million to renovate Palumbo. In reality, the Athletics Department is doing fundraising to get money to make the renovations via corporate sponsorship. Women’s swim team will be adding diving in order to help generate conference wins and revenue.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- None

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

- None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Aurora Winwood, Faculty Senate Graduate Assistant