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NOV 28 2007

November 26, 2007

Faculty Senate Receiver
#13

MEMORANDUM

TO: Bruce Bikle
Chair, Faculty Senate

FROM: Alexander Gonzalez
President

SUBJECT: Faculty Senate Actions

I am in receipt of your memorandum of November 15, 2007, reporting actions taken by the Faculty Senate in its meeting on the same date.

FS 07-76/AITC suggests ways by which potentially to “encourage the campus community to begin a preventative program to purge highly sensitive information from documents and databases residing in digital and written formats.” I appreciate the spirit of the recommendation and am forwarding it to Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Larry Gilbert, for consideration of its specifics in light of the University’s current effort to improve IT security and protection of sensitive faculty, staff, and student information. Please note that the “purge” of sensitive information from campus documents and databases is not an intended outcome of the current information security protections being implemented by the Chief Information Officer. Current information security processes rather are focused on *eliminating vulnerabilities to disclosure* of such sensitive information. A fully comprehensive purge of sensitive information likely is not required on our campus. It would place an undue burden on faculty and staff and unnecessary expense on the campus.

FS 07-77/AITC offers recommendations regarding faculty membership on three new IRT advisory committees.

- I accept the recommendation that faculty members proposed to serve on the various IRT advisory committees shall be recommended to the Senate by the Senate’s Academic Information Technology Committee (AITC).
- I concur with the recommendation that the faculty representative to the IRT Steering Committee be the Chair of AITC. Prior to implementation of this recommendation, I ask that the Senate work with AITC to develop procedures by which its chair is elected.

- I concur with the recommendation that at least one of the three faculty members to serve on the IRT Academic Advisory Committee be a member of AITC. In line with the Senate's recommendation that the Library have a representative on the IRT Academic Advisory Committee, one of the remaining two faculty members on that committee must also be a member of the University Library faculty. At the Senate's discretion, the Library representative may be a Library staff member.
- While in agreement with the recommendation that the University Library be represented on the IRT Academic Advisory Committee, I do not concur with the recommendation that the Library be represented on the IRT Steering Committee. It is important to keep the Steering Committee to a manageable size and, as the recommendation indicates, the Library's role in the University rests primarily within the academic realm.
- Finally, while the work of Library and College IT consultants is much appreciated, I do not concur with the recommendation that the Chair of the AITC Technical Subcommittee be represented on the IRT Academic Advisory Committee. The faculty representatives on that committee can and should bring to it the perspective of those on the AITC Technical Subcommittee.

Regarding FS 07-72/APC, I approve the revision of the Undergraduate Academic Advising Policy as recommended by the Senate. It represents an important step toward improving our retention and graduation rates. As noted in the Senate's discussion of the proposed policy, its implementation will require resources, and these must be aligned with prioritization of the University's goals. I have asked Provost Sheley and the Vice President for Student Affairs, Lori Varlotta, to work with the Senate to develop funding, implementation, and assessment plans for the new policy. I have asked David Wagner, Vice President for Human Resources, to review the policy regarding its references to staff participation in its implementation. Finally, I welcome the Senate's special meeting to discuss ways to increase the amount and quality of academic advising.

In closing, I acknowledge and appreciate the Faculty Senate's endorsement of the overall goals and priorities articulated in the University's draft Strategic Plan (FS 07-79/Flr.). Those goals and priorities will do much to focus our attention on such vital matters as advising and retention.

Thank you for your attention.

AG/leo

- c. Larry Gilbert, Vice President/Chief Information Officer
Joseph F. Sheley, Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs
Lori Varlotta, Vice President for Student Affairs
David Wagner, Vice President, Human Resources