



## A Message from the Chair of the Senate/Faculty Consultative Committee (SCC/FCC)

*Professor Rebecca Ropers-Huilman serves as the 2014-15 SCC/FCC Chair.*



I often hear people express the ways in which universities like ours should differentiate themselves from corporations. While these reasons often relate to our mission and organization, one of the most compelling reasons is that we know that shared governance is critical to our collective ability to fulfill the University's role in society.

In this first edition of the Update, it is a good opportunity to remind ourselves that shared governance at the University of Minnesota requires active engagement by people who care about how the University works and who it serves. We need those people to engage in senate bodies, our administration, and on our Board of Regents. As we implement the strategic plan, shared governance will ensure that we maximize its potential while managing unanticipated complexities.

I believe that research universities like ours can and do change the world. I strongly encourage you to contribute to that effort, whether through your research, your teaching, your outreach, or in the collective leadership that makes the University of Minnesota what it is. I look forward to working with you.

## Priorities Emerge

The fall 2014 FCC retreat kicked off with a new conversational format, which included five panel discussions comprised of administrative, student, and faculty leaders. Following these discussions, FCC members decided to prioritize issues related to equity and diversity, graduate education, and the review and support of tenured, tenure- and non-tenure track faculty. To view the minutes:

<http://hdl.handle.net/11299/166628>



*2014 FCC Retreat - Northrop*

# October 2, 2014 University & Faculty Senate Meeting

## Strategic Plan Discussion



At the combined University and Faculty Senate meeting, a focused discussion on the draft of the

Strategic Plan for the Twin Cities campus was led by Provost Karen Hanson. Senators collectively weighed in on the plan before it went for action to the Board of Regents at its October meeting.

## Recognizing Outstanding Service

Randall Croce and Fred Morrison, seen here with President Kaler, received the first Outstanding Service to University Senate Governance Recognition at the October Senate meeting.



Randall Croce is the video producer in the Center for Human Resources and Labor Studies in the Carlson School of Management. Randy has been

active in University Senate governance since 1999. He is credited with establishing college-level governance groups for P&As.

Fred Morrison, Popham, Haik, Schnobrich/Lindquist & Vennum Professor of Law, has served in University Senate governance for more than 40 years. As chair or committee member, Fred has been influential in institutional planning.

The Outstanding Service to University Senate Governance Recognition recognizes faculty, P&A, and civil service employees who have made a significant impact on University governance. For information on nominations: [www1.umn.edu/usenate/scc/governance\\_award.html](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/scc/governance_award.html)

# December 4, 2014 Faculty Senate Meeting

## Faculty Consultative Committee Report

Professor Ropers-Huilman reported that the FCC has been engaged in discussions with the president on the next steps in the Strategic Plan implementation and the employee engagement survey. They have discussed graduate education and the Student Conduct Code with Provost Hanson. Ropers-Huilman will give her semesterly FCC report to the Board of Regents at its December meeting.

## Faculty Legislative Liaison Update



Professors Lyn Bearinger and Gary Gardner serve as the faculty legislative liaisons. Bearinger provided senators with an update and highlighted aspects of the biennial request. The request includes funding for facility improvements,

community engagement research and programs, and a tuition freeze for in-state undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. She also encouraged senators to contact their state legislators and inform them of the value of the work of the University.

## 2018-19 Morris, Rochester, and Twin Cities Calendar Approval

The Faculty Senate unanimously passed the 2018-19 academic calendars. After a lengthy discussion and results from two surveys, the Educational Policy Committee (SCEP) recommended that the 2018-19 Rochester and Twin Cities calendar include 70 instruction days in each semester. The fall semester currently has 70 instruction days while spring has 74. The calendars as approved are available at: [www1.umn.edu/usenate/calendars/calendarpage.html](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/calendars/calendarpage.html)

## President's Report

President Kaler emphasized the importance of the University to greater Minnesota as reflected in the biennial budget request.

He also noted progress on the Strategic Plan and improving campus climate. He reminded everyone of the importance of wellbeing during this time of the year and encouraged the use of resources such as: [mentalhealth.umn.edu](http://mentalhealth.umn.edu)

# Governance Working for U

The work of the senates is accomplished primarily through their 25 standing committees, as well as numerous subcommittees and task forces. Faculty, academic professionals, civil service staff, students,

alumni, and administrators have designated positions on most committees. For more information about committees go to:

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/committees.html](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/committees.html)

## **Finance and Planning (SCFP)**

Over the fall semester, Finance & Planning heard reports on the Enterprise System Upgrade Project (ESUP), intercollegiate athletics, including the new athletic facilities proposal, fringe benefit rates, and an update on the biennial request, with an eye toward how each affects the University's budget.

## **Social Concerns**

A panel discussion about the need for healthy and locally sourced food options on campus was held at the December 8th meeting.

During the conversation, the contract with Coke, bottled water usage, and educating students on nutrition and healthy eating were raised.

## **Student Senate Consultative Committee (SSCC)**

The year began by advocating for a change to the athletic student ticket bundling practice and a bike/wheelchair ramp on the North side of Willey Hall.

At the December meeting, a resolution was passed supporting the tuition freeze, and a letter was signed by MSA and the Student Senate advocating the use of midterm course evaluations by faculty in all courses.

## **AHC Faculty Consultative Committee (AHC FCC)**

Ebola preparedness for the campus community was featured at the November *Third Thursday*.

*Third Thursday* was created in 2007 by the AHC FCC in an effort to provide AHC faculty a means to share ideas, foster collaboration, and exchange information.

Interested in serving on a Senate Committee? Go to:

[http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/concl/comm\\_app\\_facpa.html](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/concl/comm_app_facpa.html)

Applications for faculty and P&A are being accepted and will be reviewed starting in late January 2015.



## Strategic Planning, Diversity, & Job Family Study Piques Interest of Several Committees

Many faculty, student, and staff actively participated in the strategic planning process over the past year. This coming spring, committees will be looking at ways to support implementation of the plan within their charges.

Diversity on campus and creating a climate of inclusivity is a significant theme in the Strategic Plan. For some Senate committees, the question now becomes *how*. The Equity, Access, and Diversity Committee (EAD) is focusing on issues of hiring and retaining a diverse faculty. The FCC has spent time on these issues as well as salary equity, caregiver support, and ensuring places are supportive of diverse faculty, staff, and students.

Several committees are interested in the job classification redesign process, and have actively engaged in conversations with senior administrative leadership about its possible effects as it draws to a conclusion.



### **Policy Information**

For the latest information on policies that may affect you, go to:

[policy.umn.edu/User/POLICYLIB\\_POLICYPOST.html](http://policy.umn.edu/User/POLICYLIB_POLICYPOST.html)

Policies currently under review:

[policy.umn.edu/User/POLICIESREVIEW.html](http://policy.umn.edu/User/POLICIESREVIEW.html)

For more information on the individual senates, use the following links:

### **Civil Service Senate**

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/cssenate/](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/cssenate/)

### **Faculty Senate**

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/fsenate/](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/fsenate/)

### **P&A Senate**

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/pasenate/](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/pasenate/)

### **Student Senate**

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/ssenate/](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/ssenate/)

### **Are you interested in receiving minutes of University Senate committees?**

### **Do you want to know more about what governance is doing on your behalf?**

Go to: <http://z.umn.edu/theweeklyupdatesignup>

The Weekly Update is an email sent on Fridays when approved minutes of committees are available.

## Looking ahead...

### **Intellectual Future Conversation**

On February 19th the FCC, president, and provost will have a discussion on shared governance and the role of consultation.

### **Clinical Research Review**

An independent panel reviewing policies, practices, and oversight of clinical research on human subjects at the University received an extension to its original December deadline. The new deadline is January 31, 2015. At least one member of the panel will attend an upcoming meeting of the Faculty Senate to discuss the findings.

For more information go to:

[www.research.umn.edu/news/external-review-rfp.html](http://www.research.umn.edu/news/external-review-rfp.html)

### **President Kaler to give State of the U Address**

The address will be held in late February or early March. Watch for public announcements on the date and time.

### **Spring 2015 Senate Meetings:**

- March 5
- April 2
- April 30

For more details:

[www1.umn.edu/usenate/calendars/senmeeting.html](http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/calendars/senmeeting.html)

To contact the  
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