**GFC Meeting 4/11/2018**

Present: Ana Abad-Jorge, John Alexander, \*Ayn Balija, Michele Madison, Ed Murphy, Sarah Ware, Keith Weimer, Diane Whaley

Guests: Mimi Riley, Pace Lochte (Assistant Vice President for Economic Development)

**Committee Reports**

**Elections**—Ballots were sent out on April 8; voting will be open until April 21 at 11:59p.m.. There are two open spaces for Administration; no one ran for those spaces. The Council converted one seat reserved for Administration into an at-Large seat. Various options for the second seat were discussed—including a write-in candidate, or a special election in the fall. There was no quorum to vote on any of these proposals.

**Data Management** – John Gaskins has updated various mailing lists. **(?)**

**Policy Committee** –The GFC Policy Committee receives University policies for comment from the Chair of the Faculty Senate Policy Committee.

The GFC Chair will ask the University Policy Review Committee to send policies directly to the GFC Policy committee and will seek GFC representation on the Policy Review Committee, which was refused last year. At that time they said that they “prefer that current mechanisms work as they are planned to work.” But the current mechanisms are not working. There has been miscommunication between the Faculty Senate Policy committee Chair and the GFC Policy Committee Chair, and it is not clear that all policies or comments are being relayed to or from the Policy Review Committee. Having a middleman complicates the relationship.

The University Policy Review Committee meets monthly. All members are administrators with one faculty member—the Chair of the Faculty Senate Policy Committee.

**Mimi Riley, talked about search for a Chief operations Officer (COO) for the University:**

Background – New President (Jim Ryan0 coming August 1, and it is an opportunity to rethink higher administration—with a new Provost and new COO. The search committee for the COO is trying to figure out what those relationships and positions will look like in the new administration.

They mapped the position on to the current COO role. The COO has control of budget, everything on the non-academic side—finance and treasury, finance and programs, IT, operations (housing, dining, parking and transportation, economic development, facilities management, security, and HR, procurement and hiring, sponsored programs). The position links to many of the foundations as well as the health system and U.Va. Wise.

Right now nothing is expected to change with the role, but that decision will be most influenced by President Ryan when he gets on board, and by feedback from within U.Va.

The committee is making a multiprong attack—looking for thoughts and comments, but have also contracted with The Parthenon Group, a consulting firm, that is meeting with offices of higher administrators. The consultants will issue a report for President Ryan; they will look at job descriptions, tweak as needed, and are already soliciting names for the COO. They are looking for characteristic of nimbleness, ability to deal with questions, flux, and change.

Mimi asked two related questions to stimulate conversation:

1. What characteristics and experience do you seek in new COO
2. What challenges are coming to higher education and UVA—within the next couple of years? The next 10-20 years? How should those influence what this role should look like? (Sarah will email these to the GFC.)

Some responses were:

**Characteristics --**

Experience in industry/private sector as well as academic, but with the balance skewed towards academic. The university has already moved in a more corporate direction, so the COO needs to understand the values of academic and nature of community.

**Challenges and Opportunities—**

* Interdisciplinarity: features of departments like Music and Architecture are important to many other departments. At the same time, schools are finding ways to corral student enrollment based on the new financial model.
* University needs to prioritize growing facilities to accommodate growing classes.
* Nontraditional learners are now the majority of students, but our focus is on learners on Grounds. How can we expand outreach to digital learners beyond the traditional 18-22 year old student? How can we expand services and infrastructure to support nontraditional adult education?
* Adult learners are primarily motivated by desire to advance or change careers. These motives do not need to undermine traditional notions of liberal education. This can also relate to the traditional valuation of education as an attitude of lifelong learning.
* What is relationship of COO and Provost? We are still growing into the idea of what it is to be a highly ranked public institution. How do we organize ourselves in the face of that ambition? The trends towards the General Assembly lacking understanding of public education and funding are not likely to be reversed. We are living up to our ambitions of being a top-ranked institution, and yet are not funded and supported by the General Assembly. COO needs to be an innovator; Provost and COO need to work together to make sure a common vision is pushed forward. COO needs to see overlying things to foster the innovation and integration.
* University funding model has intensified silos.
* Inequity and lack of balance and fairness within the University—especially manifested in funding.
* The search process must include younger faculty and staff and students
* The University has been hiring more lecturers and non-tenure track lines. General faculty are the majority and the rewards structure is all about research, not teaching.
* Students still feel unease about their safety, but are hesitant to discuss this with people of different backgrounds. A sense of safety for all and a comfort level with discussing it must be built more deeply into culture of university.

The search committee welcomes any additional comments or concerns.