From: Jannette Finch, Faculty Secretary

To: Faculty and Staff

These are the highlights from the Faculty Senate regular meeting on 11 October 2016. Full minutes to follow.

The Speaker called the Senate to order at 5:04 PM and adjourned at 7:24 PM.

Reports

**Speaker of the Faculty Todd McNerney**

Speaker McNerney spoke briefly of the effects of Hurricane Matthew, gave an update on the unfilled Faculty Secretariat position, the convening of two ad hoc committees, the upcoming Board of Trustees meetings. The schedule and a sample meeting schedule is located here: [http://trustees.cofc.edu/schedule/index.php](http://trustees.cofc.edu/schedule/index.php) or you can contact Speaker McNerney for details.

**Provost Brian McGee**

Provost McGee reported on damage from Hurricane Matthew, thanked Public Safety and Physical Plant staff for quickly bringing the campus back to normal. Please file a work order or let your department chair know of any problems in classrooms. Please don’t assume a problem has already been addressed.

The Provost discussed revisions to the Academic calendar. Posted on registrar’s site you will find the most current schedule. The Provost spoke of the formation of two additional ad hoc committees.

The Provost offered comments on an "astonishing coarsening of our public discourse and direct challenges to civility in our public sphere" over the last several days and expressed that our students will benefit from professors who are able to demonstrate what our public dialog and discourse should be.

**Dr. Rénard Harris, Interim Associate Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer**, intends to foster an action-oriented office, attempting to shift from big program approaches, to more grassroots efforts. Dr. Harris and his team will try to create a swirl about what diversity is. The office is open door to everyone.

**Seaton Brown spoke on behalf of the Faculty and Staff Giving Committee.** Total population of faculty and staff give about 14%-16% of total population on campus. Their committee has been charged with increasing this number to 20%. Think of a favorite student—did that student have a scholarship? You have the opportunity to grant that scholarship. He describes many different funds you can support. Official faculty and staff campaign runs through November. If you donate $50 you get a cup that allows free coffee at several locations.
Bob Mignone and Quinn Burke presented the Academic Standards Committee attempt to create a major GPA policy that will emphasize:

- consistency for students;
- consistency across programs;
- maximum transparency.

There was much discussion on this topic, and Academic Standards will take recommendations of faculty and other committees back to committee with the goal of making changes by Fall 2017.

Old Business

Senator Larry Krasnoff introduced the Motion to Include Faculty in Routine Evaluation of President and Provost. The motion was seconded by Meg Cormack, Senator (Religious Studies). There was much discussion about the process and the instrument. The motion was voted on and carried.

New Business

Quinn Burke, Chair of Academic Standards Committee, made a Motion to add One Earth Credentialing Agency to International Admissions. The motion did not require a second.

Jason Vance, Chair of Committee on Bylaws and the FAM introduced a Motion to Alter Composition of the Faculty Advisory Committee to the President. The motion carried.

Christine Finnan, Chair of Committee on Graduate Education, introduced proposals affecting History and English. Both passed.

Two items were brought from the Faculty Curriculum Committee. New course CSI 281 was sent back to committee; changes to French Program of Study passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jannette Finch