**Minutes – faculty council, Apr 30, 2021**

Avri requested that the council acknowledge and extend condolences and express its shock at the tragedy at Meron. Provost Botman added expression of sorrow and shock at the Covid devastation in India.

Minutes approved (were re-sent during the meeting)

**Provost Report (Selma Botman)**

We have commencement ahead. Undergraduate seniors will be able to do this in person. Cardozo also having face to face commencement in Central Park.

In the fall we will mandate vaccine for all students. Strongly advising faculty and staff to get vaccine. Planning to be fully face to face. Most graduate classes will be online. YU has relaxed its international travel policy. Faculty can travel abroad to conduct research, etc. There are forms to fill out and advisement to speak to legal.

Finished copy of faculty handbook has been disseminated (yesterday).

There is planning going towards retention, graduation, 3-4 year programs, etc. Asking deans to think about where their schools should be in 5 years. Summer school looks robust. Most courses are online. We are close to reaching our target enrollment.

We are getting more applications from public schools.

The graduate schools are growing. Wurzweiler and Katz are growing. Everspring is working with all the graduate schools to produce new graduate courses. Hoping that graduate and undergraduate enrollment increases. Right now there are more graduate students than undergraduates at YU.

Avri mentions academic work on endowment returns and suggested we look into that.

Tamar mentions that tenured faculty are not getting reappointment letters. However in the faculty handbook it says they should be receiving them every year. The letters should include teaching load, salary, any research funding, etc. The provost will look into why the letters have not been sent.

**Executive session**

**The Faculty Handbook** (just released yesterday) needs to be looked at carefully and discussed.

Tamar was able to look at it quickly:

* FH does not talk about compensation, raises, etc.
* FH does not discuss whether faculty council members need to go to other committees (academic affairs, budget, etc.).
* Wondering where the things we discussed (and agreed upon) appear. 10% raise, etc. There was a document that included the things we wanted put in the FH. We need to compare this with the FH. We will circulate the documents and expect comments in the coming week(s).
* Unclear if you can be Associate Professor before tenure.
* We should have the FH mention that the president should meet with the Faculty Council at least once a year.

Avri suggests we send our regular survey of the health of the university to all faculty and attach a letter showing what the council has been able to achieve.

Scott Goldber and Avri discussed strategies.

**Tamar’s salary survey:**

There was a discussion as to whether a new salary survey should be sent out and how useful it really is.

**Motion1:** The council shall request anonymized salary information from the provost **(Passes unanimously).**

**Motion 2:** If we do not get data, then we will send another survey to obtain more data. This will be a shorter survey than before focusing on what we saw from the first survey. It will be circulated to us before sending (**Passes by Majority** (Avri abstains, Alan is against)).

Avri reports that Mechal Haas is still working on communications with the faculty and the council and the provost agreed that we run a summer meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 1 pm

**Attendance:**

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