Senate Meeting – September 28th

Introductions – Present: Dean Rice, Dan Levin (Chair) Elisa Klein, Dawn Martin, Hong Jiao, Melanie McLean, Shannon Pokorny, Peggy Wilson, Dian Poore, Colleen O’ Neal, Charm Mudd, Yang Liu, Madeline Brooke Reich, Jill Jacobson (acting), Olivia Saracho, David Weintrop, Yang Liu, Kelly Lee, Maggie Peterson (Secretary)

Plan of organization and introduction of the work of the Senate to to new Senators is introduced as a topic, Dan describes the role of the Senate as a board of advisory for the Dean and the role for senators as advisors and communicators to their individual constituency.

Dean’s Report: Dean Rice, describes what the typical Dean’s report will consist of and the purpose of that report.

Dean Rice describes the role of senators as communicators and advisors of policy throughout the College of Education. Dean Rice outlines the broad themes that the COE Senate will take up this year. She outlines the three priorities within the college: broad and well funded research; strategic enrollment in programs; (this year will be a time for looking at the courses with this goal in mind); raising the visibility and understanding of the work we are engaged in within the college. The COE is currently engaged in a program to raise visibility for our College around the college rankings. (Program rankings are decided by asking deans and chairs, and faculty at other colleges and universities to list programs that are first or second in their own estimation.)

Dean Rice describes the ways that the College will raise its visibility at national conferences, etc. such as using Powerpoint with UMD logos. Dean reports that we are looking at data across the college to consider how we are making and organizing programs across departments. The data packets sent to Chairs are quantitative measures of accountability that will help to name areas in departments to work on as regards enrollment, overlapping programs, etc.

Dean Rice describes the goal of looking at the College as a whole entity within three broad themes describing the work that we are engaged in. The three big ideas that are guiding our work are: Civic Engagement/Education; The Educator Pipeline Project; Technology, Education and Human Development (considering the many ways that technology and education/human development intersect with technology).

Dean Rice describes her sense that there may be a new budgeting system coming on a University wide basis to align better with campus strategic roles. The budget will not be a 100% enrollment based system, but there will be a new focus on enrollment as one factor. Dean’s idea is that there will be a hold harmless element to consider campus mission, but the enrollment will factor into funding from the University.

Statewide work through the Kirwan Commission, is described, where the commission is considering teacher quality and quantity, early childhood, at-risk students, accountability, college and career readiness. Dean Rice will sponsor a discussion to have the Kirwan Commission report to chairs in the College on their work and preliminary findings.
Dan asks about the possibility of a larger MOU with counties for research, etc. Jennifer describes the idea of a blanket MOU, and the expansion of a model for research and teaching within the PDS. Discussion of the issues including the professional development of teachers, the role of induction, the one-sided nature of our work with the counties ensues. The discussion of ways that we may improve the partnerships with the counties for research and teaching continues. There is agreement that there needs to be more college wide work as opposed to individual or ad hoc work with the counties and that proposals which are submitted individually is not the most efficient or effective way to partner.

Colleen raises a question about what is under the surface, campus wide, considering the recent death of student athlete Jordan McNair. Dean Rice refers to the fact that the University took monetary and legal responsibility for his death, but that the “toxic culture report” that has been commissioned may cause more fallout for administration as the report is delivered. All campus deans were brought together with President Loh to question how the death was handled across the campus and to receive information about how the University would act, going forward, regarding issues of diversity and inclusion.

There is a diversity and inclusion task force within the University Senate to consider how the campus can move forward. Deans suggested that every college have a chief diversity officer. Dean Rice reports that there needs to be a bottom up shift in culture across campus, in addition to greater leadership on the issues at the top, from the University and in each college.

The College is diverse across faculty and student representation and is working to consider better, how we are working to keep faculty of color and see them through to promotion. The notion of full inclusion in our staff and throughout our campus must be highlighted, and more faculty of color must be hired and retained, as well as more first generation and students of color recruited and graduated from our College. We need to offer support and access to students, keeping students here to engage in community building/fostering community. Feedback from Senators on these issues includes:

Peggy reports on work at CPA – looking into the early pipeline for future educators and recruiting students. Elisa Klein mentions impediments that students or future teachers of color seem to face. Shannon Pokorny describes some of the challenges that future teachers face in the College including challenges in mentoring and advising.

Some of the goals moving forward for the College and possibly Senate to address include the issues of diversity and inclusion in our College: focus on diversity in hiring pools; prioritizing service, including mentoring of students and future teachers of color; committee work within the Senate; a look at why we are losing advisors to other colleges – are they leaving because of the pay in College of Ed.?

**ACTION ITEM** - Dan makes a motion that Senators bring issues of diversity and inclusion (mentoring, mission etc.) to the Steering Committee. The Senate has a voice vote and the resolution is passed.
Dean Rice describes the way business will be brought to the Senate and the way that new charges will be brought forth, describing how work will move through the steering committee from the departments to be brought to the Senate. See the [COE Senate Charges Proposal](#).

It is proposed by Kelly Lee, that there be an addition to the draft detailing the reporting of the timeline and a requirement that a final decision be reported back to the initiator, after it goes through the steering committee. The Senate agrees, through voice vote. This was added to the Proposal Draft.

The Dean proposes that the Chairs will allow time during the faculty department meetings for a report from College Senators so that information from the Senate can be disseminated. Dan says we should represent ourselves as “ears” in the Department meetings, but not open discussion at Department meetings on issues, instead Senators should be available to talk with constituents to bring issues to the steering committee.

**ACTION ITEM -** Dean Rice will talk to the Council of Chairs to ask that five minutes be set aside in every Department meeting to allow for a report from the Senate and for the Senator to express willingness to take business from the Departments back to the Senate.

Dan describes the committee structure within the Senate (see Senate Agenda for September 28th.). Dan proposes that we have representation on the senate from the Faculty Affairs Committee. He describes the work of Kelly Lee and Jessica Chew, who worked on the Awards committee to streamline the work of awards, etc. last year. He asks that Kelly and Jessica add a tenure line person to the committee and Jessica asks for a first year senator to be on the awards committee for this year, so that the work can easily be handed over to the newer Senator.

Dan calls for chairs for the Senate Committees and for nominations to become the Chair Elect.

Dan shows the Google Drive to the Senate

Maggie Peterson is nominated and voted in as secretary of the Senate.

Jill Jacobson senator at large for CHSE is awaiting a College wide vote to be added to the Senate officially.

The meeting is adjourned.