Sense of the Senate Resolutions of April 23, 2013 UNLV Faculty Senate Meeting

Resolution on Faculty Consultation Procedures. Approved 04-23-13
Shannon Sumpter, Senate Chair

Whereas, The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) states in the 10th Edition of their Policy Documents and Reports (Statement on Government of Colleges and Universities, page 137) that the “selection of academic deans and other chief academic officers should be the responsibility of the president with the advice of, and in consultation with, the appropriate faculty”; and

Whereas, The Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE) Handbook states in Title 2, Chapter 1, Section 1.6.1 that “The appointment of the heads of administrative units below the level of vice president within a System institution, including department chairs, and all other persons reporting directly to the institutional president shall be made by the president. In the process of making such an appointment, president or his or her designee shall consult with faculty of the appropriate administrative unit”; and

Whereas, The UNLV bylaws state in Chapter II, Section 10.5.1 that “The Executive Vice President and Provost may appoint an interim dean only after consulting with the faculty of the college/school. Such consultation shall be in accordance with unit bylaws and established policies and procedures”; and

Whereas, Shared governance requires significant, timely, and transparent information through a meaningful and authentic consultative process with the faculty prior to any formal administrative decision; and

Whereas, The occurrence of “consultation” within the UNLV Bylaws is not procedurally defined; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the academic faculty in their respective academic units, and the administrative faculty within their respective administrative units, will determine what shall constitute the procedural forms of their participation during consultation within their respective administrative structures; and

Resolved, That the UNLV Faculty Senate endorses forms of consultation for academic and administrative faculty that ensure fairness and confidentiality. These can include, but are not limited to, surveys, polls, or a vote of the faculty.

Vote for Approval: 39-1-1
Resolution on Establishment of a Medical School at UNLV.  
Approved 04-23-13  
Shannon Sumpter, Senate Chair

Whereas, The Association of American Medical Colleges ranks the state of Nevada 45th in the US in terms of total active physicians (i.e., 198.3/100,000 population); and

Whereas, The Association of American Medical Colleges ranks the state of Nevada 7th in the US in terms of active physicians who are international medical graduates; and

Whereas, The Association of American Medical Colleges ranks the state of Nevada 37th out of 41 states in the US in terms of total students enrolled in public medical schools (i.e., 9.4/100,000 population); and

Whereas, The Association of American Medical Colleges ranks the state of Nevada 46th in terms of residents and fellows enrolled in programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (i.e., 10.5/100,000 population); and

Whereas, The Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents Health Sciences System Committee “shall promote quality education, research, patient care and community health across health care disciplines, driven by access, quality, value and the needs of people of the State of Nevada”; now, therefore be it

Resolved, That the UNLV Faculty Senate commends transparent and constructive discussions by the Board of Regents Health Sciences System Committee for the creation of a medical school in southern Nevada; and

Resolved, That the UNLV Faculty Senate endorses the creation of a medical school at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas to serve the unmet needs of the citizenry of the state of Nevada.

Vote for Approval:  36-4-2

Sense of the Senate: Resolution Regarding Decision to Close the Harry Reid Center.  Approved 04-23-13  
Shannon Sumpter, Senate Chair

It is the Sense of the Senate that the decision to close the Harry Reid Center for Environmental Studies has involved neither full transparency nor sufficient consultation with faculty, given the significance of this unit and the impact of this change on diverse campus units.

Vote for Approval:  30-7-3
Sense of the Senate:  *Resolution Regarding Announcement of Presidential Appointments*.  Approved 04-23-13  
Shannon Sumpter, Senate Chair

It is the Sense of the Senate that the UNLV Faculty Senate deeply appreciates the willingness of the Board of Regents to include faculty input in the process of evaluating the President of the University. In that spirit, we request that the Board add a statement in its presidential evaluation process that would require the Board meeting at which the re-appointment takes place to be held on the campus of the president being evaluated.

Vote for Approval: 40 - 3

Sense of the Senate:  *Resolution on reappointment of Dr. Neal Smatresk as President of UNLV*.  Approved 04-23-13  
Shannon Sumpter, Senate Chair

It is the Sense of the Senate that we enthusiastically support the reappointment of Dr. Neal Smatresk as President of the University of Nevada Las Vegas and his advocacy for state budgetary fairness for our students.

Vote for Approval: 37 - 7