



American University of Sharjah  
Faculty Senate 2005-2006

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

for the Senate Meeting # 3

**Date:** Tuesday October 18, 2005.  
**Time:** 4:00 p.m.  
**Place:** Senate Meeting Room.

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Dear Colleagues,

I would like first to formally welcome our new Senator from IEP, Senator Laurial Mehdi who was elected to substitute Senator Giesen who received a leave of absence.

The SEC meeting # 3 was held on October 4. All the elected members of the SEC attended the meeting as well as Chancellor Thompson and Vice Chancellor Mosbo. I will report to you the results of the meeting.

The Chair of the Senate Committee on Academic & Curriculum Affairs raised several issues regarding the calendar of AY2006-2007 as sent by VCAA. They were mainly related to the summer of 2007. VC Mosbo clarified that the schedule for the mentioned summer is not yet finalized. As the calendar was needed by the admission office, the SEC voted to approve it. The Senate will vote on it today.

A question was raised by an SEC member on whether there is a change in the possible recommendations by FPCs for the rolling contract. Both the Chancellor and the Vice Chancellor confirmed that the outcome should be the same as previous years. That is either recommendation for rolling contract or non-recommendation for rolling contract and nothing else.

The proposed new policy on faculty contract lengths as proposed by the council of deans was discussed from its different sides. The advantages and the disadvantages were explored. The SEC passed an amendment that "faculty have the option to choose to go for evaluation for rolling contract in spring of the 4th or 5th year". We will vote on the policy as amended today.

Following the senate vote last meeting, the SEC discussed possible implementation mechanism to clarify the process of assigning merit increases in each school or college. The SEC passed a motion that each dean writes a memo explaining the system that will be in place for merit increases for this academic year. The SEC understood the difficulties

associated with explaining the system used for last year. The VCAA informed the Senate president that the needed memo will be delayed till November as some current deans will not be involved in the process this year.

The SEC discussed the possible representation of faculty in the board of trustees meetings as a request was put during the last extraordinary faculty assembly. The Chancellor expected that members of the board will not accept that but he said that this may occur on the long term.

Finally, the SEC opened the subject of the new policy of fringe benefit. Various ideas that came from faculty after the assembly were presented. Possible mechanism to come up with a modified policy were discussed. However, the Chancellor indicated that it is unlikely that any change will occur in the policy this year.

Outside the SEC meeting, I would like to report the following:

VC Mosbo officially informed me with his recommendation to Chancellor Thompson that the new FPC structure initiated and passed by the Senate will be implemented for AY2006-2007 after a minor modifications requested by the Council of Deans.

VC Mosbo informed me the policy on external consulting is ready to be presented to the Senate by Director of Graduate Programs and Research. I requested that the policy be presented first to the SEC before it is sent to the Senate floor.

Finally, I would like to thank all the Deans for helping in the election process of the members of the Senate Committee of Elections. This is a committee of senators only and its members are elected by all faculty in the unit. The committee members are:

- Shoaib Nabi (SA&D)
- Mohammed Zayani (CAS)
- Mohamed Gadalla (SOE)
- Hamid Baghestani (SBM)

Thank you and I now open the floor for questions on the Chancellor's report and the Senate President's report.

Ahmed Mokhtar, President