



Communications Advisory Committee (CAC)

Minutes of Meeting: 2/13/2023

Circulated: 4/10/2023

Approved: 4/17/23

Present: Rick Fitzgerald (Interim VP for Communications), Dave Reid, Yulia Sevryugina, Chandan Kumar Sinha, Cliff Lampe (Chair), William A. Calvo-Quirós, Laura Beny, Kentaro Toyama

Absent: Stefanie Galban, Janice Molloy, Sarah Murray, Josh Pasek, Craig Smith,

Faculty Senate Office: Eric Vandenberghe

10:04am: Call to Order, Approval of Agenda and Minutes

The agenda was approved. The minutes for the 12/1/23 meeting were approved.

10:05am-10:07am: Check in on tenor of communication satisfaction

Summary: Rick described messaging with the arrival of a new President.

The high volume of communication was mentioned as an item of concern by the committee.

Action: Discussion

10:07am-10:25am: Messaging around GEO negotiations and actions

Summary:

Academic HR has been working to share information about the negotiations, to make sure it is available. The Provost has been sharing updates as well.

A discussion ensued on the role the faculty plays in this situation.

Action: Discussion

10:25am-10:41am: Addressing the following charge: “Consider the best practices to ensure and facilitate fairness, equity, and inclusion in university communications.”

Summary:

The VP’s Office stated that fairness, equity, and inclusion are factors that are carefully considered in communications. Using The University Record is a communication method designed to ensure these principles are adequately addressed. General feedback that has been received is that the Record is useful in disseminating information to the faculty and staff.



It was noted that email can be cumbersome, so trying to consolidate information through the Record is a way to continue improving this process.

Getting the print edition of the Record is important for those staff members who are not accessing their email regularly. Having it via email and on the webpage is important, as it provides multiple modes to obtain the information.

A discussion ensued on the promotion of research completed by underrepresented minority groups, and the evolution of communication in this regard. A comment was made for a desire to have members of majority groups physically present at DEI events to show support for those individuals seeking equitable representation.

Action: Discussion

10:42am: Announcement

Summary: The process for selecting the next VP for Communications is moving along. It is tentatively expected that there will be news regarding this prior to the end of the academic year.

Action: Announcement

10:42am: Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Vandenberghe
Faculty Governance Coordinator
Faculty Senate Office