

Report of the Faculty Council meeting

August 4, 2020

1. Teaching in the fall

- The HyFlex model is still the default option, but remote is also an option being considered now. Final decision will be made by this Friday and possibly communicated by early next week.
- There is a board meeting on Wednesday with the primary goal to pass the budget, but will likely discuss the fall instruction options as well.
- Student survey shows almost 60% would like to be in classroom; 17% want to be mixed; 16% want to be remote. financial cost is approximately 2m per month
- Michael Martin has modeled the spread of the virus on campus assuming no extensive testing. The best scenario is that we can get to second week of Oct. before all isolation rooms are filled. The only way to stop the outbreak is frequent testing and contact tracing which is beyond our current capabilities.
- A letter has been drafted that calls for remote teaching in the fall; those who support this option can send their signatures.
- The principle of Hyflex is to first design classes as if they are all online, then adapt parts of it to in-person instruction.

2. The procedures of amendment

- The executive of FC has met and decided that a single proposal would be problematic. The current suggestion is to propose an amendment that would authorize the faculty to vote for pay reduction, then work with the administration on a second proposal about the temporary pay cut for the full faculty to vote on.
- Current timetable: FC meeting on 8/28 to review the first proposal, vote if it should be sent to full faculty; full faculty meeting also on 8/28,
- Relevant rules in Faculty Handbook about amendment procedures:
 - ❑ V.I.A7 Proposed amendments to this Handbook may be initiated by submission, in writing, of the proposed change to the Faculty Handbook Committee by the faculty council.
 - ❑ V.I.B The proposing body will create a draft proposal that will be shared with the Faculty Handbook Committee and the faculty. The draft proposal will be sent to Faculty Council, and that body will act as managers to disseminate the proposal to the faculty and administration. There will be a period of review and comment that lasts 30 days. During that time, the proposers will host hearings or discussions to which the entire university community are invited. Following feedback and suggestions, the proposers will have an opportunity to revise their proposal in light of recommendations received.

- ❑ V.I.C After revisions, if any, the proposing body will send a formal proposal to the Faculty Handbook Committee. It shall then be the duty of the Faculty Handbook Committee to study such proposals and formulate a recommendation to the faculty considering the proposal. It will not be further changed by the committee, nor will they make recommendations for change to the proposal at this time.
 - ❑ V.I.D. At the end of the review process, the Faculty Handbook Committee will forward the proposal to the Faculty Council with their recommendation. Faculty Council will share the final proposal with the faculty and administration, and organize formal open hearings. The proposal will be presented to the Faculty at the first Faculty Meeting following this second 30 day review period.
 - ❑ V.I.E. If the faculty vote to move the proposal forward for a vote, the proposal will move forward to a ballot issue before the faculty immediately (within one week of the Part Five 49 faculty meeting). In order for the vote to be valid, a quorum of at least 60% of the faculty eligible to vote must vote. If a quorum votes, and the amendment receives at least 60% support from those voting, it shall then be forwarded by the Faculty Council to the Board of Directors for consideration. F. After a 30 day review period (counting only days during the Academic Year), the Board of Directors shall return the amendment either approved or disapproved to the Faculty Council. If this takes the Board into the summer, it will be decided at the first Board Meeting in the fall. In case of disapproval, a written explanation of the reasons for such disapproval shall be included.
- Two possibilities of the implementation of pay cut: 1. No cut in fall and double cut in spring semester 2021; 2. No cut in this year (2020-21); cut next year (2021-22).
 - If the board decides to force a change in the faculty handbook, they cannot implement it until the next academic year.
3. Review a potential proposal
- Mark Waner presented his preliminary draft of the FHB amendment; several FC members provided feedback.
 - FHB committee will meet to discuss the amendment.
 - Brent has communicated with the SLT about potential consequences if they pass pay cut by fiat.