

Senate Report

October 17, 2013 Academic Committee of the Board of Trustees meeting

Submitted November 20, 2013 by Catherine Seta & James Ford

The BOT/AC is composed of 18 Trustees (including 4 Life Trustees), a student representative, two faculty representatives (representing the College and the Graduate and Professional Schools) and Provost Kersh. Twelve Trustees were present at the Oct. meeting. Dean Fetrow and Vice Provost Collins were also present.

Agenda items:

- I. **Old Business:** The meeting began with updates on the topics covered in last year's meeting, including the status of online education, the wellbeing initiative, the global Wake Forest advantage program, and the first two months of the Faculty Fellows program.
- II. **New Academic Program:** Typically about 1/3 of the AC meeting includes a discussion of a proposal for a new program. This meeting, Vice Dean Charles Iacovou of the Business School presented a description of a new MS program in Data Analytics, which is proposed as a cross-disciplinary, 1 year degree program within the School of Business. A new faculty member is currently being recruited to head this program. Committee members were enthusiastic about this proposal.
- III. **Faculty Salaries:** Provost Kersh and Dean Fetrow presented issues related to faculty salaries. (It should be noted that the BOT does not determine faculty salary levels.) The Provost and Dean characterized this process as an open-ended discussion with the faculty, consisting of 3 potential points of discussion: Data sharing, discussions of appropriate comparison groups, and discussions of appropriate salary targets. The data presented at the College Faculty Meeting were also presented to the AC; the state of faculty salaries were characterized as "falling somewhat behind our peer groups" but "but keeping up with inflation". Provost Kersh and Dean Fetrow informed the committee that there are ongoing discussions regarding the conclusions drawn from this data, and that in response to faculty requests, they are in the process of gathering additional data that will be presented to the college faculty. I was also told that the tables composed by AAUP and presented to the college faculty by Hank Kennedy were sent to the AC members after the meeting. It is clear that this will be an ongoing topic of discussion.
- IV. **Resolution** involving consolidation of the Wayne Calloway School of Business and Accountancy and the Babcock Graduate School of Management under the name Wake Forest University School of Business. *Approved.*