President’s Report for May 2015

Dear Colleagues,

Well, we’ve done it! Another amazing academic semester is finishing up! Take a break from the inevitability of grading and enjoy some quality time at Clyde’s. Members of Faculty Assembly will be gathering for laughs, commiseration, and communication on Wednesday May 13th from 4 – 6. Monique French, your in-coming FA President, will be hosting the event. Please join us! Remember, Conversations at Clyde’s is an ongoing initiative of the Faculty Assembly that will be resuming in August.

As always, there are a number of issues that you should be aware of:

1. Done Service?

In an effort to get a handle on just how much service people are doing across campus, FAEC is working with the Provost’s Office to conduct an informal audit of campus level service. This is not departmental service (primary unit, etc.) or college level service (Dean’s Review Committee). We are trying to understand how many non-faculty governance committees are out there and functioning, such as ad hoc committees. This does not include committees such as FMAC or Pride. If you have served on a non-faculty governance committee, such as the Bicycle Committee, would you please let myself (mcompani@uccs.edu) or Monique French (mfrench3@uccs.edu) know? Please include the title of the committee, the purpose of the committee, the duration of the committee (all year vs. it met once for 3 hours), and the size of the committee. We’d really appreciate your help!

2. Speaking of Service...

Again, please join me again in congratulating Sue Byerley (Library) as the recipient of the 2015 Faculty Assembly Service Award. We would also like to thank the Chancellor for awarding TOM NAPIERKOWSKI with the 2015 Special Chancellor’s Award. Surprise Tom! Unbeknownst to Tom when he came to the award ceremony, he was to be recognized for his decades of service to UCCS and to faculty governance. I had the privilege of sitting next to him when his name was called and seeing the look on his face! In talking to Tom, he wants everyone to know how humbled he is for being given this award and how thankful he is to everyone who was a part of making it happen for him. Congrats and well deserved Tom! Check out the photos of all of the award winners at: http://communique.uccs.edu/?p=18661

3. Mentorship Update

I want to thank the Chancellor and the Provost for their work this semester moving the mentorship issues forward. They have hosted a number of mentorship tables and are actively engaged in keeping
the discussion about how to improve mentorship on campus. Kudos to: FMAC, FAWC, PRIDE, and Office of Diversity & Inclusiveness for their workshop series “Contentious Discussions in the Classroom.” Also thanks to FMAC, PRIDE, and FAWC for their collaborative work on developing a booklet on Standards and Guidelines to support the University’s mission to foster diversity and inclusiveness at UCCS. This process is on-going, but much appreciated.

There is still a great deal to be done on the issue of mentorship, but the members of Faculty Assembly and the Faculty Assembly Executive Committee are dedicated to keeping this matter on the agenda. Discussions will continue. We are working with Kelli Klebe, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Faculty Development, and Terry Schwartz, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic and Faculty Affairs, to improve opportunities for faculty development and networking. Our work continues!

4. Commencement!

Join us at the World Arena for the Commencement Ceremony on May 15th! It is a great opportunity to help celebrate the accomplishment of your students. Faculty will be seated together on the floor of the arena directly in front of the stage to facilitate our ability to get up and congratulate our students personally.

Respectfully submitted this 5th of May, 2015

Michèle Companion, FA President 2014-2015