

## **December UFC Meeting**

### **1. Graduate Faculty Council Updates**

- Graduate school budget will need to be divided now that the two main campuses have their own graduate schools
- Plan submitted to ICHE stated the different campuses would use the same policies and procedures; GFC will coordinate

### **2. IU Code of Academic Ethics Amended/Revised**

- Mostly updated outdated policies; removed sections that applied only to students or now covered in other policies
- Substantive changes:
  - Instructor has discretion to handle minor acts of dishonesty and plagiarism as a teaching opportunity within the class context
  - New section on work-life balance; discourages the regular scheduling of classes and faculty meetings in evenings and on weekends unless approved by the faculty
  - Procedure created for investigating complaint of faculty misconduct; dean has authority to conduct initial investigation. Campuses can have a faculty committee involved in serious cases at early stage if they want and have this procedure in place

### **3. Course Evaluation Changes Approved by Board of Trustees**

- Because numerical summaries in student course evaluations may reflect cultural biases, and low participation rates may skew results, numerical ratings should not be used as the primary source of data for evaluating teaching. Each unit faculty governance organization shall have a policy for evaluating teaching that provides for qualitative student feedback and other sources of information.

- Each campus and unit should have the autonomy to create their own policy and procedure for reducing the bias associated with numerical ratings and facilitating the evaluation of teaching through qualitative student feedback, teaching reflection, and peer review.
- Developing new course evaluation guidelines assigned to Senate Teaching Committee

#### **4. UFC Research Affairs Committee Report:**

##### **Findings:**

- Research needed to attract and retain faculty
- All campuses' input needed
- Can't be homogenous in mission; consider region
- Robust in-person needed
- Local economy, about 40% first-gen at regionals; 65% also stay in area

##### **Weaknesses:**

- Little faculty engagement and limited planning
- Information opaque, many top-down decisions in last year
- Metrics narrowly focusing on publications undervalue research impact (more undergrad preparedness, faculty mentoring grads, etc.)

Work being done on campuses like LSAMP program at IUSB where place underrepresented minority students in intensive STEM internships with summer research experience

## **Recommendations:**

- Aim for clear communication, transparency, and utilize faculty consultation
  - Embrace shared faculty governance in decision-making processes
  - IU is a complex organization – quick decisions with little input can undermine goals
  - Need to engage faculty in research administration reorganization and search for new VPR
- Delay implementation of Capacity Model
- Recognize importance of program certifications, accreditations (and unintentional impact of losing these accreditations)
- Invest in research infrastructure
  - Facilities
  - Reduce barriers to cross-campus collaboration

## **5. Indiana Funding Formula for Higher Ed Proposal**

- ICHE advanced Outcomes-based Funding proposal based on school-specific goals instead of blanket recommendations for metrics
- New formula has potential to increase state appropriations over time, especially for regionals (more added to base budget each year if meet goals; performance-based incentives)
- Would need to be passed by state legislature to go into effect