

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michaela Winchatz
Faculty Council President

FROM: Patricia O'Donoghue *Patricia D. O'Donoghue*
Provost

RE: ROA 3 (Resolution on Support for Collaboration) from March 2014 Faculty Council Meeting

DATE: March 24, 2014

I have reviewed Faculty Council's Record of Action: 3 resulting from its meeting of March 5, 2014 and on behalf of the President I approve the following action:

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Motion and second to approve as written the proposed Faculty Council Resolution on Support for Innovation:

WHEREAS, at its recent retreat Faculty Council discussed a range of issues regarding innovation through collaboration; and

WHEREAS, there was general agreement among those who participated in the “innovation through collaboration” working groups that faculty members’ intellectual/creative agendas should drive curricular change at DePaul; and

WHEREAS, except in isolated pockets (such as the Rosalind Franklin research initiative), current budgeting and incentive structures discourage collaboration, especially across colleges; and

WHEREAS, retreat participants proposed a variety of possible avenues to help overcome those structural obstacles;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Faculty Council recommends to the Provost that the following actions be implemented:

1. that a certain portion of QIC and URC funds (including summer stipends, release time, and monetary grants) be earmarked for cross-college collaborative endeavors in research, creative activities, and curricular development; and

2. that university-wide programs, including Liberal Studies, University Honors, and Study- Abroad, be used as platforms for courses that are conceptualized, designed and taught collaboratively by faculty in different units.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Faculty Council work with the Office of Academic Affairs to support effective faculty collaboration across colleges and disciplines by:

- facilitating research/creative affinity “matchmaking;”
- exploring ways to better recognize and reward collaborative work through the tenure and promotion and annual review processes;
- encouraging the creation of mission-driven collaborative projects;
- exploring ways to create free-standing units at the university level (rather than in a particular college) to house collaborative work;
- investigating how other institutions are supporting collaboration and innovation, in order to find models that could be adapted to DePaul;
- carving out physical spaces on both campuses that encourage collaboration;
- creating virtual spaces for collaboration; and
- encouraging “pop up” events, and other avenues for intellectual/creative “play.”

MOTION carried unanimously by a show of hands (26 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstentions)

ACTION REQUESTED: FC requests that the Provost approve the action and ask the relevant parties to take the steps necessary to implement the approved action.

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Accordingly, the Office of the Provost will notify the relevant parties to take note of the intentions of Faculty Council as stated in the approved action.

As usual, the Office of the Provost asks that Faculty Council arrange for the posting on its website of this response.

CC: Bamshad Mobasher, Faculty Council Vice-President
Roshanna P. Sylvester, Faculty Council Secretary
Valerie Johnson, Chair of the Committee on Committees
Fr. Dennis H. Holtschneider, C.M., President