

## **Faculty Senate Chair's Remarks**

### **Faculty Senate Meeting**

**Friday, August 19, 2022**

President Abdullah, Provost Palm, faculty colleagues and our esteemed guests:

I wish to welcome you to our first Faculty Senate meeting for this academic year.

During the last academic year, we accomplished a lot at the Faculty Senate, particularly on issues regarding policy documents and recommendations. We discussed, voted for, and subsequently forwarded to the University Administration the various policy documents for action. These included: 1) the Faculty Senate Strategic Planning Committee Recommendations; 2) the Department Chair Credentials Policy; and 3) the Expectation of Continued Employment; among other policy documents.

The Faculty Senate also actively participated in the formulation of the Climate and Pay Equity surveys, and we now look forward to seeing the University Administration implementing them accordingly. Colleagues, all this progress would not have happened without your tireless effort and dedication.

For today's Faculty Senate meeting, we have requested the University Administration to address several issues including the following:

- 1) Timeline and implementation details of the Pay Equity;
- 2) Update on Chair's Credentials Policy, Expectation for Continued Employment, and Faculty Evaluation;
- 3) Strategies to remove VSU from AAUP Censure;
- 4) Title IX and Mental Health Counseling Statements on Course Syllabus;
- 5) Plans to roll out the electronic system for A21s;
- 6) Administration's response to strategic planning committee's recommendations for 2022-2023; and last but not least,

7) Updates on COVID-19 isolation guideline.

During today's meeting, we will ratify the new FS Secretary, who served previously as our Assistant Secretary, Prof. Novita Epps. We will also ratify the Standing Committee Chairs for the 2022-23 Academic Year, and I am requesting our NEC – Dr. J. Edwards to facilitate the process.

Colleagues, in the interest of time, I am requesting you to type any questions and/or comments you have for the University Administrators on the chat box.

And now I wish to welcome you President Abdullah, Provost Palm and your team of administrators to address the Faculty Senate.

Thank you.

Leonard Githinji, Ph.D.

Faculty Senate Chair.