



October 31, 2011

To the Board of Trustees, Committee on the UDC-CC,

On Sunday, October 30, the Faculty Senate was informed that the Board of Trustees, Committee on the UDC-CC was holding an emergency meeting on the "Community College Faculty Senate," scheduled for November 1, 2011.

We are concerned that the Faculty Senate has not been a part of the Committee's deliberations to date and we hope to bring our thoughts to bear on the discussion.

In December 2010 the Board created a *pathway* for the formation of a UDC-CC Senate when it adopted the UDC Faculty Senate Charter. That Charter states on page 2 that the "Faculty Senate will have oversight of CCDC [UDC-CC] academic standards, policies and programs until such time as the CCDC [UDC-DC] establishes a permanent or similar shared governance system, recommended by the FS, presented by the President, and approved by the Board of Trustees." The Charter also called for the election of five UDC-CC representatives to the Faculty Senate. Those representatives have been sitting in the Faculty Senate since September and participating in its deliberations.

The UDC-CC Administration's proposal for a Community College Faculty Senate currently under consideration by the Committee on the Community College was never presented to the Faculty Senate for discussion and a vote. (A "draft" proposal was forwarded to the predecessor Academic Senate by Brenda Brown - who presents herself as the "President of the UDC-CC Academic Senate" - in late spring 2011, but not formal submission has been made.) Thus the proposal for a "Community College Faculty Senate" now before the Committee on the Community College is in violation of the process created by the Board when it passed the Faculty Senate Charter.

Therefore, we ask that the Committee on the Community College decline to vote on this matter today and refer it to the Faculty Senate for debate and a vote. In so doing, it will affirm the faculty's role in the shared governance structure and uphold the guidelines it approved in December 2010. It will also allow the Faculty Senate to work out the thorny issues of how the two bodies will communicate, what will happen to the five UDC-CC Senators currently sitting in the Faculty Senate, and other issues related to any transition of this sort.

It appears from the information we have been given, that the Committee on the Community College is holding an emergency hearing to consider this proposal in order to meet the UDC-CC's deadline for Middle States. We do not believe that the UDC-CC Administration's failure to properly prepare for the deadline warrants a violation the Faculty Senate Charter.

Sincerely,

Connie M. Webster

Connie M. Webster, PhD, RN, CNE
Chair, UDC Faculty Senate