Committee Name: Chairs Council 2015-2016
Number of Meetings Held this Year: Four
Committee Chair: Dilip Mirchandani
Committee Members: (list here) All (Elected) Department Chairs

Purpose of/Charge to Committee:
To discuss issues pertaining to the governance of departments including academic and faculty issues as well as administrative and budgetary issues and their impact on departments.

Summary of Activities this Year:
Four meetings were held, two in the Fall and two in the Spring. In addition to these meetings, Chairs were invited twice, once in the Fall and once in the Spring, to attend the Chairs / Leadership breakfast.
The primary topics discussed at Chairs Council meetings were:
1) The unilateral change in the model/formula to significantly reduce the CGCE/GLP revenue share to departments. The Chairs sent a memo to the Provost requesting a process, similar to the one used in 2010, to review the revenue share model. A work group, that included a Chairs representative, was convened and is currently finalizing its recommendations.
2) The use of Appointed Department Heads in eight departments as an experiment during a two year period (2015-17). Discussion among Chairs and consultation with legal counsel to AFT resulted in identifying the need to clearly define and codify bargaining unit work so that such work may be protected from administrative infringement without negotiation. This will proceed in the coming months as Chairs create a detailed account of bargaining unit work.

3) The February 2016 meeting, where President Houshmand met with Department Chairs only, resulted in wide ranging discussions about many issues including the urgent need for many more full time tenure track faculty given the sharp rise in the student population, the various forms of planned collaboration with Community Colleges (CCs) including upper level courses being offered by CCs, the urgent need for additional classrooms and labs, better services and support for programs and students, and budgetary issues. The President said he would like to have more such meetings with Chairs to continue discussions.

UNIVERSITY SENATE ANNUAL COMMITTEE
SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS
2015-16

SUGGESTIONS:

2015-16 University Senate Annual Committee Report Suggestions

Name of Committee: Chairs Council

SUGGESTIONS:

Have more opportunities for all Chairs, and esp. incoming Chairs, to get some advice, training, guidelines. Probably best if such sessions were held jointly with Senate and AFT.
RECOMMENDATIONS: