

## UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL – FEBRUARY 2021 UPDATE

Greetings NEOMED Faculty,

We hope you are well and are staying warm during this very snowy winter. To begin, I wanted to talk a little about communication! Some of the most important work of University Faculty Council (UFC) involves bi-directional communication. That is, UFC plays an important role in sharing the faculty perspective with administration at NEOMED, and we also communicate with faculty about decisions made at the University-level that affect faculty. UFC members attend President Langell's Executive Management Team meetings every week to learn of issues of interest to faculty and to share updates on what is happening with UFC and with faculty throughout the University.

Effective communication is essential to UFC, and it depends on an active and engaged faculty. We hope you will take a moment to identify your University Faculty Council Representative (<https://www.neomed.edu/facultyrelations/council/>) and reach out to them to learn about- and inform them of- issues that are important to you as a faculty member. Of course, you may also contact Patrick Gallegos, Chair of University Faculty Council, or myself, any time.

That said, there are a few announcements to bring to your attention:

- UFC is working with Dr. Kasmer, VPAA, to create professional development opportunities of interest to NEOMED faculty. We have created a task force within UFC to allow us to effectively contribute to the initiative and communicate with faculty. We will continue to provide updates as they become available.
- Dr. Paul Hartung has recently been elected as Chair of the Rootstown-based Faculty Forum in the College of Medicine. The next meeting of this group is Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Please contact Dr. Hartung for more information.
- A Task Force of UFC, led by Dr. Jeffrey Mellott, has been providing feedback to President Langell on the proposed pilot for the Faculty Compensation Plan.
  - Eligible faculty (COM Assistant and Associate Professors) who wish to participate in the pilot program for this compensation plan are asked to opt-in by March 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Faculty who may wish to discuss their individual options may meet one-on-one with a staff member on the Finance team during the month of March.
  - Faculty in the College of Medicine will be discussing this plan at the next meeting of the Rootstown-based Faculty Forum (3/10).

- We hope you will attend the upcoming discussion, “**Advocacy 101: Building Connections in Columbus & Washington**” with John Stilliana, Vice President, Government and External Affairs, and Janet Coon, Associate Director, Government and External Affairs. Registration information is available here: <https://www.neomed.edu/advocacy-101-for-faculty-building-connections-in-columbus-washington/>.
- Our next University Faculty Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4pm. All faculty are welcome to attend.

Thank You,

Natalie Bonfine, PhD  
Vice Chair, University Faculty Council