

Faculty Senate Meetings 2008- 2009

Summary of Meeting 1: Date 28/10/2008

1. Senate meetings time is agreed to be at 6:30 pm on the last Tuesday of each calendar month.
2. The Senate has been notified that Senate by-laws have been approved by the Board of Regents and shall come into force effective from This academic year.
3. Proposals and recommendations coming from Academic Departments were discussed in parts. Second part of the same would be discussed in the extended meeting on 4/11/2008.

Summary of Meeting 1(Extended Session): Date 04/11/2008

Discussion of the second part of the above referenced recommendations and proposals continued. During the meeting, recommendations have been edited, approved, and forwarded to QU's VP CAO.

Summary of Meeting 2: Date: 25/11/2008

1. Approval of Meeting 1 proceedings(Extended Session) held on 4/11/2008.
2. Senate members, in a brainstorming activity, deliberated over topics that would be of interest and worth discussion.
3. It has been agreed that each Committee shall select any topic relevant to its business> such topics will be addressed and discussed in the following sessions to come up with the most appropriate recommendations on that regard.

Summary of Meeting 3: Date: 30-12-2008

1. **Endorsement of QU Faculty Senate budget proposal for the academic year 2009/2010.**
2. **Faculty Affairs Committee:**

briefed the Senate on the following items:

- o Academic Promotions
- o Faculty members Code of Conduct and Ethics Memoranda.
- o The role and duties of Heads of Academic Departments and College Deans.

3. **Public Relations Committee:**

Discussed academic courses schedules and planning. The issue is far more complex than what the committee has expected as this issue varies from one academic department to another. Therefore, in order to tackle this issue properly, the committee needs more ample time and a thorough study enhanced by an online survey to all QU Stakeholders (mainly faculty and students).

Summary of Meeting 4: Date:24-02-2009

1. Academic Research Committee :

A Brief presentation of the main issues related to Academic Research. Including but not limited to challenges and impediments as well as incentives to enhance academic research in Qatar University.

2. Academic Affairs Committee:

An Introduction to different items related to academic affairs. The committee will shed more insights on the subject matter in a later meeting scheduled in April 2009.

Summary of Meeting 5: Date: 31-03-2009

1. The members discussed the topics raised by the faculty affairs Committee addressing deans and heads of departments' functions suggesting some amendments and additions as recommended by the Committee. In regard to faculty code of conduct, the committee mentioned that the University is currently working on a new and upgraded memorandum addressing faculty code of conduct that would mount to its counterparts operative in other world universities of repute.
2. The public relations committee addressed the issue of academic schedules and their distribution. It was agreed to continue discussion of the same in a future meeting. Senate members urged the PR Committee to communicate with senates of other universities and to seek and promote relations and cooperation with the same in the fashion that would ensure exchange of experiences and opinions.
3. The Senate looked into QU Academic Calendar of the years 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 and enquired why QU faculty members have to sign in after summer break ends and wait for two weeks. After that Eid break begins for approximately another week and then they begin class teaching. The same scenario is duplicated in 2010-2011 QU Faculty have to sign in after summer break ends and wait for one week followed by a one week Eid break after which class instruction begins.

In order to match with other education institutions working in the Country and to avoid any business interruption and confusion, QU Senate will approach QU Administration to reconsider the academic calendar mainly 2010-2011 and to see if faculty members' return could be postponed till end of Eid break and to take necessary action towards that end.

Summary of Meeting 6: Date: 28-04-2009

1. Brief presentations by both the academic research and academic affairs committees.
2. It has been agreed to contact a number of VPs and directors who would be able to shed more insights on the current issues dealt by the above- mentioned committees.

Summary of Meeting 7: Date: 23-6-2009

Discussion of the Faculty appraisal system survey designed by the Academic Affairs Committee. It is recommended to translate the survey into Arabic to target as many Qatar University Faculty members as possible. The above mentioned committee rapporteur will present the data analysis of the survey in a later date.

Summary of Meeting 8: Date:20-10-2009

1. Members were requested to send their feedback on QU's new vision and mission which the Senate received from VP for Institutional Planning. Senate will forward proposals/ comments to Dr. Saif Al-Swaidi.
2. Senate may hold another official meeting during the remaining period of its term if that turns out to be necessary. Otherwise, there will be a Farewell meeting on the occasion of Senate's end of term.
3. Proposals:
 - Senate Members reaffirmed the importance of the proposals that have been approved by the Senate in its 2 sessions dated 28-10-2009 and 4-11-2009 respectively. Such proposals are so crucial as they were raised by scores of QU Faculty in addition to their being in the core of Senate's business mandate.
 - As the Senate is almost approaching its end-of- term, and new elections will be shortly underway, it would be much in the interest of current Senate to hand over a complete and integrate portfolio to the new management including but not limited to the following:
 - Topics that have been identified by Senate respective committees.
 - Senate respective bylaws and regulations.
 - Appraisal Forms.
 - Other Documents of importance.