

# **University of Denver Faculty Senate**

## **President's Report**

**Academic Year July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**

### **Introduction**

The following report summarizes the activities of the Faculty Senate for the academic year ending on June 30, 2011. Overall, it was a good year. In addition to dealing with routine and one time issues, the Senate adopted four stretch goals. There were no simmering issues left at the end of the year, although as detailed below, there is still work ahead

n get better.

Departments focused on collectively achieving higher levels of performance are more likely to take advantage of the knowledge possessed by high performing peers, of resources available in other campus units and the Center for Teaching and Learning, of the increasing options offered by educational technology, and of state of the art initiatives at other universities.

The Academic Planning Committee worked on this initiative throughout the year and presented their "Teaching Excellence Initiative" (TEI) report to the Senate on May 27, 2011. It was moved and seconded that the Senate "commend the Academic Planning Committee for its outstanding work in producing the Teaching Excellence Initiative report identifying several possible avenues for enriching the culture of teaching and consequent student learning on our campus; and that the Academic Planning Committee

present the Teaching Excellence Initiative to the Deans Council at their September meeting to initiate collaboration and support for implementation.” The report is posted on the Senate website. Support for the TEI was given in the final report of the Academic Strategic Positioning Committee on Faculty Hiring and Development.

We must continue to make progress in the coming year as this is one of the most important strategic challenges facing the University in the current environment. The Faculty Senate will support action initiatives that, in turn, support a culture of continuous improvement in teaching and learning, as well as appropriate recognition and rewards for high performing individuals along the lines of what is currently done for research achievements.

- Creating a more cosmopolitan campus was the second goal. Good progress was made. On March 4<sup>th</sup> the Senate received a report from the Vice Provost for Internationalization that his office had established an Internationalization

## **Other Issues**

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