

LIII No. 10
Faculty Senate Minutes
February 6, 2019

Attendance: (Not taken)

New Business

Guests, Dean Barbara Glackin (Kent Library) and Dean Marsha Blanchard (Regional Campuses) each presented an overview of the structure and functions of their respective units, with an emphasis on management style and leadership philosophies as they relate to shared governance. Dean Glackin spoke about collaborative teamwork, inclusion, and removing barriers to “getting things done.” Dean Blanchard spoke about the need to coordinate and communicate with home departments on the main campus, and collaboration with faculty at regional sites and local advisory councils to solve problems and better meet the needs of local students and community constituents.

Mr. Dan Presson, Director of Career Services, presented a plan to refocus career recruitment events from a single, large, multi-major career fair to several smaller, more focused events. Projected participation for five or six smaller events would be about 30 employers and 150-200 students for each event. Recruiters would pay a single registration fee that would give them access to any or all events.

Chairperson David Powell announced that Senator Jim McGill had resigned from Faculty Senate and the Senate Professional Affairs Committee, Vice-Chairperson Laura Hatcher had agreed to assume Chair duties for the rest of the current Senate session.

Senator Hatcher presented a Resolution to temporarily extend the interpretation of the first criterion for Provost Search, which currently requires “An earned doctorate from an accredited university.” For the purposes of the Provost search currently underway, “the Provost Search Criteria in Faculty Handbook Chapter 1, Section E(4) will be understood to include terminal degrees from accredited universities.” This Resolution was presented with the understanding that the issue will be referred to the Professional Affairs Committee to fast-track the drafting of a formal bill to revise the Handbook. Senator Carl Hess moved to consider the Resolution and Senator Tamara Buck seconded. The Resolution passed by majority voice vote with one opposed and one abstained.

Senator Carl Hess presented 17-A-03 Principles of Collegiality, which passed Senate in 2017, but returned with feedback from the Provost, requesting a brief editorial amendment to remove the phrase in the title, “TO ESTABLISH A POLICY SECTION.” After a short debate about the distinction in practice between a statement of principle and policy, the amendment was passed by unanimous voice vote.

Senator Carl Hess presented for first reading 19-A-XX University Standing Committees Policy and 19-A-XX University Standing Committees Procedures. Both bills had been debated and passed by Senate in spring 2017 but returned by the Provost’s Office. The current versions include minor copy edits, a minor revision of the section regarding Proliferation of Standing

Committees, and the deletion of references to Academic Program Review Committees.

Old Business

Senator Beverly Evans presented for a second reading 19-A-XX Online Course and Content Policy. The bill was moved for consideration by Senator Diane Wood and seconded by Senator Carl Hess. Several Senators spoke in favor of the necessity of establishing clear policy guidelines in the Faculty Handbook in order to provide a clear line of appeal in the event of any dispute or grievance related to course ownership. The bill was passed by unanimous voice vote. Because of time limitations, Senator Evans proposed to table the presentation of 19-A-XX Online Course and Content Procedures.

Reports

Chairperson David Powell referred to the document in the meeting attachments, to update the Senate on the final composition and initial progress of the Faculty Senate Task Forces on Wintersession; Workload; Shared Governance; Recruitment and Retention; and Faculty Morale. The Wintersession and Shared Governance Task Forces began meetings this past week, to gather data and analyze issues in preparation for drafting a preliminary report. Dean Barbara Glackin reported for Interim Provost Tamara Randolph. She commended Senate for the establishment of Faculty Senate Task Forces and reiterated administration support for these initiatives.

Ms. Renee Owens elected to postpone a report from Student Government due to time limitations. Academic Affairs: Senator Beverly Evans referred to the work on the Online Course Ownership bills.

Legislative Committee Reports

Compensation: Senator Desma Reno reported that the Budget Review Committee held its first meeting this week, which was mostly dedicated to changes in the budget for cost of continuing.

Documents: Senator Larry Bohannon reported that the Documents Committee is continuing to review non-gendered language and other Handbook editing issues. He briefed Senate on his inquiries regarding the one-time mandate to separate the Handbook into policy and procedures and the change in Board of Regents By-Laws regarding expectations of the President to present policy changes to the Board for approval. The By-Laws were changed in 2017 to grant “general superintendence and control...over all the affairs of the University,” which precludes the necessity to present policy changes for Board approval unless the President and Faculty Senate cannot come to agreement.

Governance: Senator Carl Hess referred to work on the amended Collegiality Bill and the University Standing Committee Bills.

Professional Affairs: Senator Laura Hatcher reported that the Professional Affairs Committee did not meet the previous week, due to the resignation of Chairperson Jim McGill. She noted that there was a backlog of bills that the committee was working on, to which had been added the charge to develop a bill to address changes to the Provost Search criteria.

Membership: Senator Joni Hand noted that all members of the Faculty Morale Task Force had been contacted and the first meeting was scheduled at Catapult.

Respectfully submitted,

David Powell
Faculty Senate Chairperson

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 in the UC Redhawks Room from 3-5 p.m.