

Faculty Senate | MINUTES

Meeting date | time 2/5/2016 2:00 PM | Meeting location UC 206

Meeting called by Rex Strange (Chair)

Note taker Gabriela Mustata Wilson

Next Meeting: 19 Feb 2016 / UC 206

Senators present: Chuck Conaway, Jessica Jensen, Rob Millard-Mendez (College of Liberal Arts (CLA), Nick LaRowe (At Large); Jason Fertig, Chad Milewicz (Romain College of Business (RCoB)); Cindy Deloney-Marino, Rex Strange (Pott College); Gabriela Mustata Wilson, Mikel Hand, Mary Kay Arvin (College of Nursing & Health Professions (CNHP)); Joanne Artz (At-Large)

Visitors present: Ron Rochon (Provost), Shelly Blunt (Associate Provost), Amy Chan Hilton (Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning), Kindra Strupp (Marketing and Communications), Steve Bridges (VP Finance) Carmen Stoen (Student Development Programs), Dana Drury (College Achievement Program (CAP)) & Ben Lutrull (University Communications), Gabi Wy (The Shield)

AGENDA TOPICS

Agenda topic: Approval of minutes from 4 Dec 2015 | Presenter Rex Strange

Minutes from last time, amended slightly, approved with one abstention.

Agenda topic: Report from Senate Chair | Presenter Rex Strange

- Need to populate Grievance Committee with a student. Two suggestions made:
 - o Eric Taydom (CNHP)
 - o Teddi Rousch (CLA)

Students will be asked to write a paragraph to explain why they want to serve on the committee. Both nominations will be voted on during the next Senate meeting.

- No new developments from MT Morris on assessment protocols. Rex will extend an invitation to participate in the next Faculty Senate Meeting to give an update.
- Need to nominate and select Faculty Senate Chair for next term. Two suggestions made:

- Rex Strange (nominated by Cindy)
- Nick LaRowe (self-nominated)

Both nominations will be voted on during the next Senate meeting.

Agenda topic: Report from USI Provost | Presenter Dr. Ron Rochon

- Announced USI's two new undergraduate degree programs: a Bachelor of Science in Manufacturing Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, both of which would be housed within USI's Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education. The manufacturing engineering degree would be the first of its kind in the state. The degree programs are awaiting approval from the Indiana Commission for Higher Education.
- Contract finalized with Academic Partnerships (AP) and a site visit announced for next week.
- The Romain College of Business will be the 1st one to start working with AP, followed by the College of Nursing and Health Professions and the Pott College.
- Budget hearing will be taking place soon
- Existent programs will be looked into with the goal of enhancing program development
- Dean's Search for Liberal Arts – Campus interviews have ended and recommendations have been made to the Provost. The search process is expected to conclude within a week.

Agenda topic: Old Business: Charge – Assessment of Auxiliary Units. | Presenter

Motion made by Rex to table this until the next meeting to be able to discuss in length. Cindy seconded.

Agenda topic: Old Business: University Promotions Committee. | Presenter Rex Strange

- Good turnout at the University Meeting breakout session; faculty shared different views regarding the promotion and tenure process and on whether or not the University Promotion Committee should be disbanded.
- Senators discussed about the current process and the need for clear guidelines regarding portfolio composition (Amy Chan Hilton (CETL) is currently working on it).

- The charge sent in December about the disclosure of information regarding the evaluation of the faculty candidate to either the candidate or the faculty senate was put on hold until the state of the University Promotion Committee is known.
- Suggestion made by Gabriela to call the faculty to vote on keeping or eliminating the University Promotion Committee. Based on the results, faculty senate will continue the discussion with respect to the promotion and tenure process.
- Rex asked all senators to develop language for the survey and send it to him by Monday, Feb. 15th. The survey will be finalized in the next Senate meeting, Feb. 19th.

Agenda topic: New Business: Free Speech Zone | *Presenter: Kindra Strupp*

- Kindra Strupp presented the Freedom of Expression Policy drafted by her committee and asked for feedback
- Senators agreed that such policy was needed and discussion followed with respect to the following:
 - o Designating a new location for the “Free Speech Zone” (suggested by Chuck)
 - o Understand that the Public Safety’s role on campus is to protect the students and the speaker(s)
 - o Suggestion was made by several senators to ask individuals who come on campus to register in advance and then inform students/faculty/staff (Jessica, Chuck and Jason)
 - o Ensure that in protecting students from harassment and discrimination, students’ right to free speech on college campuses is not violated.
- Senators were asked to provide feedback to the Freedom of Expression Policy draft in writing and submit to Rex within a week (i.e., Feb 12th)

Agenda topic: New Business: Endorsement of New Drone Policy | *Presenter Kindra Strupp*

- Policy presented and asked for endorsement. After brief discussion, Cindy moved that we endorse the new policy, seconded by Chad, passed unanimously.

Agenda topic: *New Business: Endorsement of New Policy on Faculty Qualifications (without Terminal Degree)* | **Presenter Dr. Ann White**

Dean White (College of Nursing and Health Professions) asked for endorsement of the New Policy on Faculty Qualifications (without Terminal Degree). Discussion followed and senators made the following suggestions:

- Clarification on what is 'Tested Experience' (Chuck)
- Clarification on what is considered to be an "introductory level course" (see item 1.: "Faculty holding a nationally recognized license or certification in the field, and/or 5+ years of relevant work in the field, may teach introductory level courses.") (Chuck)
- Item 5 (i.e. "For faculty in areas with national accreditation and/or state board requirements, those criteria must be met.") be rewritten to include clarifications related to accreditation. (Chuck)
- Motion made by Chad to endorse the content of the new policy. If the content changes, Faculty Senators will review it again. Jason seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.