

USI Faculty Senate Minutes

19 February 2016

Senators present: Brandon Field, Mary Kay Arvin, Marilyn Ostendorf, Nick LaRowe, Gabriela Mustata Wilson, Joanne Artz, Cindy Deloney-Marino, Jason Fertig, Jessica Jensen, Peggy Shields, Rob Millard-Mendez, Chad Milewicz

Visitors present: Shelly Blunt (Provost's Office), Gabrielle Wy (Shield), Amy Chan-Hilton (CETL)

- Called to Order, 2:02pm
- Motion to approve minutes
 - Some changes made to more accurately reflect meeting content.
 - Unanimously approved with three abstentions.
- Chair's Report:
 - Course evaluations will be handled through TK20 starting this Summer and Fall. We have an outstanding charge dealing with the questions on the evaluation that still needs to be dealt with.
 - Motion made that this outstanding charge (from November meeting) of Student Assessment of Course Evaluations to Faculty Affairs Committee. Moved by Jason Fertig, Seconded by Brandon Field. Want them to examine this carefully and comprehensive. Unanimously approved.
 - Relevancy of Faculty Senate: we need to be able to handle issues as they come up in a timely fashion. It currently takes us about a month to turn things around. In the future, Senate should consider meeting more frequently (once a week) with shorter (1-hour) meetings. Any thoughts?
 - Other bodies have working groups that meet between larger meetings, to get the actual work and deliberations done.
 - This may depend on the particular charge
 - In the past, Senate Subcommittees have been established for particular charges, so the possibility of sending any charges that we get to a subset of Faculty Senators to work on the charge before it comes back to the full body.
 - Budget hearing will be before our next meeting. Will work on that.
 - Question – New programs currently go through Curriculum Committee and Academic Planning Council but do not pass directly through Senate. This had

changed with the "streamlining the new program development" changes that were made in 2013. The Chair of the Faculty Senate is on the Academic Planning Council, and serves as the voice of Faculty Senate there.

- Provost's report: Shelly:
 - Three new programs were approved: BA/BS Physics, BS Manufacturing Engineering, BS Mechanical Engineering. All starting in the Fall.
 - New Dean for the College of Liberal Arts is hired: James Beeby
 - Budget hearings: The President's presentation is available online if you didn't have the chance to see it. The Provost's office will be presenting Thursday, as three budget clusters. With the budget hearing this year, our budget requests have to represent growth or expansion to follow the next stage of the Strategic Plan.
 - Academic Partnerships contract has been signed to move the MBA online. The Nursing and Education programs will be examined in the future. Launch date for the MBA is August.
- Student representative to the grievance committee. Teddi Rausch was elected.
- University Promotions Committee: A subset of Senators (Chad, Brandon, Rex, Gabriela) are put together to draft an amendment to the Faculty Senate Constitution which will be presented to the whole Senate next meeting.
- Free Speech Zone draft policy is out at Legal Counsel, when that comes back Kendra will bring it back to her committee.
- Assessment of Auxiliary Unity charge: A small group of Senators (Brandon, Mary Kay and Rob) will put together a more detailed recommendation for next meeting.
- Vote for next year's Senate Chair: Nick LaRowe elected. Vice Chair will be elected in the Fall.
- Adjourned: 3:52pm.