

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

2 March 2018

Senators present: Chuck Conaway, Brett Long, Peter Cashel-Cordo, Peter Whiting, Rich Bennett, Kenny Purcell, Brandon Field, Charlotte Connerton, Ken Shemroske, Nick LaRowe, Matt Hanka.

Other attendees: Ron Rochon, Rex Strange

- Meeting called to order: 2:30 pm
- Animal Care and Use Committee formation presentation by Dr. Rex Strange
 - Overview distributed.
 - Membership currently made of up nominations from the deans. Will eventually need to be approved by the Provost. Will want this proposal run through the Provost's Council, and perhaps also bring it to the Council of Chairs.
 - Question of what to do about animals that are housed off campus.
 - Structure of the committee would be similar to the IRB, but different laws pertain so it would be a distinct entity.
 - Bylaws have been developed, and a formal application process is in the works.
 - Motion to endorse the efforts of the IACUC to compose the committee was passed with unanimously approval but for one abstention.
- Provost's report:
 - Draft policy was handed out for expediting a search, which was brought to the Senate last semester by Andrew Leinhardt and has been modified to address questions and comments made by Senate. Provost asks that we review it, and Andrew will come back to discuss it later.
 - Kevin V. has identified four students for fellowships from Fisk University, and some faculty will also be visiting.
 - Ed.D. degree is fully approved. We have several people from the community that want to be part of the first cohort.
 - BSEE: Met with Academic Affairs subcommittee with Zane Mitchell and Paul Kuban. Came out of that meeting as an expedited track, which means that approval should be no problem.
 - Statistics degree was approved by the Board of Trustees.
 - First Panamanian cohort will be arriving in June. Most in STEM areas, some in Rad Tech, some in Computer Science.
 - Jack Smothers was contacted by a firm in India looking for MBA online universities to provide their health care workers with MBA possibilities. Looking into this partnership.
 - There are a number of institutions throughout the state that are applying for online programs.

- Peter Whiting, Chair's Report:
 - Met with the Economic Benefits committee regarding the charge we sent them.
 - Emailed the standing committees for their updated reports by April 12th for the April 20th Senate meeting. The chairs of those committees were also invited to the April 20th meeting.
 - Board of Trustees approved the Campus Master Plan.
 - From the President's Council: there is a Financial Care Team that can help students that are behind on their financial aid.
 - Budget hearings: Faculty Senate, Staff Council, and Administrative Senate presented our priorities. Dr. Bennett said that the focus should be on a pay raise. If we were to go from the state rate to the federal rate for the travel per diem, that would mean that there would be less money for travel overall. Every presentation that was made was based on reallocation of existing funds.
- Minutes from February 16th meeting; Motion was made to amend minutes to remove reference to lerts on campus. Amended minutes were unanimously approved with one abstention, who disagreed with the amendment.
- Bylaws of Faculty Senate regarding committee membership.
 - Faculty and Academic Affairs committee require two faculty members from each college. Currently, there is only one faculty member from each college.
 - Motion was made to require each college to populate each committee as required in the bylaws. Unanimously approved.
 - A charge is being prepared to amend the bylaws regarding the constitution of the Promotions Committee. It will be circulated by next meeting.
- Ad hoc committee on Student Evaluations of Teaching update by Rich:
 - Some of the February meetings were cancelled. Over Spring Break, Rich wants to organize a ballot to have a report to us by the 30 March meeting with recommendations of new questions that will be submitted to Senate for approval.
 - Committee will be making recommendations for how to deal with nasty comments, how they are used, how to motivate students to complete the evaluations.
 - It was requested that recommendations be separated, so that Senate might be able to treat different recommendations individually.
- Meeting adjourned: 3:55 pm