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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes

Monday, 17 April 2006

Present: Stan Albrecht, Steve Burr (for Doug Ramsey), Ray Coward, Ed Heath, John Kras, Pat Lambert, David Luthy, Derek Mason, Bruce Miller, Shawn Olsen, Will Popen Dorf, Steve Sturgeon (for Jan Alm),

Excused: Derek Mason, Gary Merkley, Brent Miller, Doug Ramsey

Presenters: Lynn Dudley, Christine Hult, Joyce Kinkead, Jennifer MacAdam, Krysta Lynn Minnotte, Jeff Walters

John Kras called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Shawn Olsen moved to accept the 20 March 2006 minutes as written, seconded by Will Popen Dorf, carried unanimously.

Announcements

Doug Ramsey is the Faculty Senate President-Elect for 2006-2007 and President for 2007-2008.

University Business

Stan Albrecht presented University Business.

Commencement

Stan passed out fliers on Commencement and the College Convocations. Commencement Ceremony in the Spectrum will be 90 minutes long. Degrees will be awarded in the College Convocations.

University Announcements

The new College of Business Dean is Douglas Anderson. He is a Harvard Graduate and a former Harvard Faculty member, most recently he has been running his own private consulting firm out of Boston. The appointment is effective 1 July 1 2006.

The new Alumni Director is Wallace Odd, effective 1 May 2006.

This last year has been the most successful development year in the history of the University. We have received many important gifts and more announcements are to come.

At the Library Dedication this past Friday, Richard Rodriguez gave what Stan believes is one of the best addresses ever given. It was a wonderful address to the campus community.

Consent Agenda

EPC Business

Joyce Kinkead presented EPC Business. Steve Burr moved to place EPC Business on the consent agenda, seconded by Shawn Olsen, carried unanimously.

Note EPC Business for April has four action items: 1) A request from the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering to offer a Master of Science in Computer Engineering and

a Master of Engineering in Computer Engineering, 2) A request from the College of Natural Resources to change the prefix for courses in the new Department of Watershed Sciences (formerly AWER) be designated as WATS and the prefix for courses in the new Department of Wildland Resources (formerly FRWS) be designated as WILD, effective Spring 2007, 3) A request from the College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, together with Continuing Education, to approve the Master of Social Work program to be offered on the Logan campus and 3 distance education sites, and 4) The General Education Subcommittee presented the following language to be included in the Code 402.12.6:

The General Education Subcommittee reserves the right to review the syllabi and instructors of all USU courses, and all courses used for Breadth and Depth in the University Studies Program, under the following circumstances:

1. Whenever a new person is assigned to teach the course.
 2. Whenever there is a significant change in the course content.
 3. Whenever the course has not been taught for at least three years.
 4. At five year intervals.
 5. Whenever the course evaluations are low enough that there is cause for concern.
- The review will determine if the syllabus of the course meets the expectations of the University Studies Program. The Subcommittee will offer an opportunity for the course to be revised as needed to meet expectation; failing that, it has the authority to remove a course or an instructor from University Studies offerings if expectations are not met.

New Chairs: Richard Mueller will be chair of the Curriculum Subcommittee and Scot Allgood will take over Academic Standards Subcommittee.

ADVANCE Report

Christine Hult presented the ADVANCE Report and the new program leader Krysta Lynn Minnotte. The external reviewers came to campus a couple of weeks ago to review the ADVANCE Program. The reviewers were very positive about the work of Faculty Senate and PRPC including the policy languages added to the code and the ombudsperson policy. Pat Lambert moved to place the ADVANCE Report on the consent agenda, seconded by Bruce Miller, carried unanimously.

Faculty Evaluations Report

Mike Lyons did not show. Bruce Miller moved to place the Faculty Evaluation Report on the consent agenda, seconded by Shawn Olsen, carried unanimously.

Information Items

Committee on Committee Report

Will be presented to Faculty Senate at the final meeting.

Old Business: Action Items

Domestic Partner Benefits Proposal

In the last Faculty Senate Meeting this was not addressed due to lack of time and will automatically appear as old business.

ARR Report

Lynn Dudley is here to answer questions about placement and section locations. Shawn Olsen motioned to place Section 403.4 on Alternative Course Requirements (Attachment 5) as information item on the faculty senate agenda to be discussed for a second reading next Fall and to also request a motion from the Faculty Senate to place it in the Policies and Procedures Manual, seconded by Pat Lambert, carried unanimously.

Key Issues and Action Items

PRPC Business

Jennifer MacAdam presented the PRPC Business.

The following are action items for final approval from Faculty Senate:

- 1) *Revision of Role Statement (405.6)*: Will Pependorf motioned to place the action item for final approval on the faculty senate agenda, seconded by Shawn Olsen, carried unanimously.
- 2) *Deans' Tenure and Promotion Advisory Committee (405.7)*: Shawn Olsen motioned to place the action item for final approval on the faculty senate agenda, seconded by Bruce Miller, carried unanimously.
- 3) *Deadline for Initial Promotion Committee Meeting (705.8)*: Shawn Olsen motioned to place the action item for final approval on the faculty senate agenda, seconded by Bruce Miller, carried unanimously.
- 4) *Academic Freedom and Professional Responsibility (403)*: Ed Health motioned to place the action item for final approval on the faculty senate agenda but striking "Policy 403.4" mentioned in the text, seconded by Shawn Olsen, carried unanimously.
- 5) *Alternative Course Requirements Policy – Motion given previously under the ARR Report but it is included here*. Shawn Olsen motioned to place Section 403.4 on Alternative Course Requirements (Attachment 5) as information item on the faculty senate agenda to be discussed for a second reading next Fall and to also request a motion from the Faculty Senate to place it in the Policies and Procedures Manual, seconded by Pat Lambert, carried unanimously.

The following are first time action items for Faculty Senate:

- 1) *Excused Absence Policy*: Shawn Olsen motioned to refer the Excused Absence Policy (Attachment 6) to EPC, seconded by Shawn Olsen, carried.

The following items are automatically placed Faculty Senate as information items because they were not addressed due to the lack of time:

- 1) *Role Statement Criteria for Award of Tenure and Promotion – Excellence in a Minor Role*.
- 2) *Supervisors on Tenure and Promotion Advisory Committees*.

New Business

Raymond Coward reported on the Faculty Evaluations of Department Heads. The return rate was 86 percent; 517 faculty out of 603 who were surveyed responded. Ten of thirty-five departments had 100 percent response rate. The College of Education and Human services had 94 percent participation and the College of Humanities, Art and Social Sciences had 90 percent

participation. The lowest was Science with 78 percent participation. We will have the results by May 1, 2006, all anonymous, and all aggregated. The results will go to the Deans, and they will have individual meetings with each of the department heads looking at the feedback from the faculty.

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 pm