

Minutes of the Faculty Senate

7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 3, 2013

Room 140 DeBartolo

Attendees: Gail Bederman, Karen Buranskas, Matthew Capdevielle, Mark Caprio, Anjan Chakravartty, Annie Coleman, Antonio Delgado, John Duffy, John Gaski, Liangyan Ge, Nasir Ghiaseddin, Alexandra Guisinger, Martin Haenggi, Michael Hemler, Nancy Joyce, Danielle Joyner, Linda Major, Paul McGinn, Eric Morgan, Walter Nicgorski, Carolyn Nordstrom, Catherine Perry, Dianne Pinderhughes, Kali Rath, Denis Robichaud, Salma Saddawi, John Stamper, Marsha Stevenson, Sandra Vera-Munoz, Bruce Williams, Richard Williams

Excused: Christine Becker, William Berry, Xavier Creary, Erika Doss, David Gasperetti, Michael Kirsch, Sylwia Ptasinska, Jeanne Romero-Severson, Joshua Shrout,

Absent: Jeremiah Castle, Dennis Doordan, George Howard, Matthew Leevy, Karel Matous, Joe Urbany

1. Start of meeting 7:00; Opening Prayer
2. Approval of Minutes of the May 7, 2013 Session: Minutes are approved.
3. Introduction of New Senate Members
4. Moment of Silence for faculty members who have passed away during the 2012-2013 academic year.
5. Chair's remarks
 - a. Meeting with the Provost:
 - the Provost recommended faculty discussion about MOOCS (Massive Online Open Course).
 - The Chair addressed the issue of salary compression and requested that the Provost provide a salary distribution breakdown. The chair will follow up with the Provost. Benefits committee may wish to review the possibility of creating a faculty survey to collect data pertaining to salary.
 - b. Academic Affairs:
 - The Chair reported that Gretchen Reydam-Schils is organizing an Arts and Letters working group on faculty initiated internationalization efforts.
 - c. reminder of outstanding appointments.
 - d. Stadium renovation (possibly including a faculty club).
 - e. Discussion on the possibility of inviting the Provost.
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Academic Affairs, Rm. 140: Matthew Capdevielle was unanimously elected chair.

Academic affairs opened the conversation about MOOCS. The committee also spoke about the digital initiatives committee.

b. Administrative Affairs, Rm. 131: No report. No committee members present, Chair election postponed until next meeting.

c. Benefits, Rm. 136: Nasir Ghiaseddin

-- Benefits met a few times during the summer to discuss cost reduction mechanisms coming to health benefits.

-- For next year they are implementing pre-certification and step therapy for certain procedures. Last year step therapy was put in place for a few drugs. Next year a wide range of medications will fall under this process. The committee reported that it tried without success to convince the University to do otherwise.

-- Discussion on other possible changes that may be implemented, i.e., linking the premium cost to income (as a percentage rate).

-- There will be the possibility of having a catastrophic plan, probably for 2015, which is a low premium insurance for people who wish not to have a co-pay until they reach \$3,000 in medical bills.

-- The committee is discussing the possibility of a Roth 403b.

-- There was concern expressed that increasing health insurance costs were not being matched by the fixed amount of subsidy the University was providing retirees..

-- Denise Murphy will be invited to address the Senate.

d. Student Affairs, Rm. 136: John Gaski

-- Student affairs discussed grade inflation (CIFs) and institutional impediments that affect job placement for graduate students.

7. A final round of Elections and Appointments – Traffic Committee

There was a discussion regarding the representative on the traffic committee. If no volunteers contact the chair, he will contact the traffic committee and ask that no faculty senate representative be present.

8. New Business

Hugh Page and Laura Carlson are responsible to oversee minority and women hiring on campus. The Senate will request a report on their data.

9. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned 8:25.

Respectfully submitted,

Denis Robichaud