

Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, June 20, 2018

JCK 880, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attending Senators: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Janet Bezner, Natalie Ceballos (by phone), Rachel Davenport, Jesse Gainer, Lynn Ledbetter, Vince Luizzi, Ben Martin, Dave Nolan, Michael Supancic, Alex White

Guests: Selene Hinojosa (Library), Micky Autrey (University Curriculum Committee), Debbie Thorne (Associate Provost)

Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Senate Chair Alex White

3:00 – 3:50

Senate and University Committees

- The Faculty Senate approved the appointment of new members to the following committees: Nontenure Line Faculty, Academic Freedom, Budget, Suspension Appeals, and Performing Arts (Fulbright replacement).
- Several appointments remain to be discussed in future meetings, including Fulbright replacements for the Presidential Work/Life Advisory Council and new appointments to the Faculty Handbook Committee, Research Enhancement Committee, and Presidential Award Committees.
- The Faculty Senate approved the University Curriculum Committee's request to change their student membership from two undergraduates to one undergraduate representative from Student Government and one graduate representative from the Graduate House of Representatives.
- The Faculty Senate approved the Environment and Sustainability Committee's similar model for student membership, which included one undergraduate and one graduate student (both to be recommended by faculty members and appointed by the Faculty Senate).
- A document listing Senate committees and charges was provided, and the Senate considered several methods through which committees might set their goals and report their accomplishments in the coming year. Senators White, Bezner, and Ceballos agreed to draft a template to standardize committee reporting. The Senate discussed various strategies for streamlining the list of committees, including the use of "task forces" for urgent issues and "standing committees" for regularly scheduled activities. These issues will be revisited in future meetings.

Senate Bulletin

- The new bulletin procedure will proceed as follows: Two weeks before the first of the month, at the regular weekly meeting, the Senate will agree on topics for the bulletin. Next, Dave Nolan will draft the language for the bulletin, and Valerie Anderson and Alex White will finalize the bulletin and send it out during the first week of the month.

3:50 – 4:00 Break

4:00 – 5:00

Qualified Faculty Roster for SACS

- Debbie Thorne discussed the Qualified Faculty Roster that is part of the SACS review. The review will focus on courses scheduled for fall 2018 and spring 2019. SACS requires documentation of a person's qualifications for their teaching assignments. This documentation may include credentials (terminal degrees, 18 hours of graduate coursework in the discipline, etc.) or narratives with additional documentation (more common in applied or creative areas). If the wording of one's terminal degree changes over time, additional documentation may become necessary. Documentation applies not only to individual departments, but also to more multidisciplinary groups, such as the Honors College. GIAs and GTAs also have qualification requirements.

Changes to Faculty Developmental Leave Policy

- The Senate discussed plans to adjust the evaluation rubric so that it more closely matches the PPS and to add more structure to the post-leave reporting procedure. Ben Martin, Alex White and Natalie Ceballos agreed to draft a proposal addressing these changes.

Remaining agenda items will be discussed at next month's meeting.

5:00 p.m. Adjournment by Chair Alex White

Minutes submitted by Natalie Ceballos, Secretary