

Faculty Senate Minutes, Wednesday, July 18, 2018

JCK 880, 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Attending Senators: Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Janet Bezner, Natalie Ceballos, Jesse Gainer (by phone), Vince Luizzi, Michael Supancic, Diego Vacaflores, Alex White

Guests: Glynis Christine (Student Emergency Services), Selene Hinojosa (Library), Tom Grimes (Budget Committee)

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

Committee Reports

- University Performing Arts – The committee received 14 proposals. Out of these, they selected and scheduled the following events:

- My Barbarian (University Performing Arts event), Jan 21 - Feb 22, 2019
- Count Basie Orchestra (University Performing Arts event), Feb 9, 2019

In addition, the committee will help host:

- Richard Smith (Supple Series event): Sept 10, 2018
- Ruthie Foster (Supple Series event): Oct 18, 2018
- John McCutcheon (Supple Series event): Dec 2, 2018

Faculty Senate will advertise these events in the bulletin.

- Budget – Tom Grimes reported on the activities of the committee. In the past year, they met with an assistant to Eric Algoe (VP for Finance and Support Services) to discuss several budget issues. In the coming year, the Senate Chair will meet with the committee to share information and avoid duplication of efforts.

Student Emergency Services (SES)

- Glynis Christine (SES Coordinator) described the activities of SES, which is a component of the Dean of Students Office designed to assist students who are experiencing the consequences of an emergency. She is currently working on their website and surveying faculty about how to improve services from the faculty perspective. She is putting together a brief description of SES that the faculty could add to their syllabi.

Faculty Survey of University Climate, Diversity and Inclusion

- Senator Gainer discussed the prospect of surveying faculty about university climate, diversity and inclusion. The Senate wants to take a leadership role in improving the climate of our campus, an effort that fits into our ongoing theme of “building community”. Additional discussion focused on potential survey content and the stage at which we could solicit more concrete suggestions from faculty on how to resolve existing issues. Senate Chair will invite Scott Bowman (Special Assistant to the Provost

for Inclusion and Diversity) to attend our first fall meeting so that we can coordinate our efforts.

Senate Goals

- Senate Chair provided a list of regular Senate responsibilities, as noted in the Faculty Constitution. Our yearly “goals” are in addition to these regular responsibilities. Chair provided a list of previous years’ goals. The Senate discussed the possibility of continuing last year’s goal of Building Community, but with enhanced focus on diversity and inclusion. In addition, we will likely need to focus on revising the Faculty Handbook, and Alex has collected some information to inform the revision.
- A portion of the first or second Senate meeting in the fall will be devoted to finalizing our goals for 2018-2019. Janet will facilitate. As homework for this event, Senators will be asked to identify other stakeholders who are working on building community and be prepared to discuss what activities may already be in progress on our campus.

Important Dates

- Next Faculty Senate Meeting – August 29, 4:00 – 6:00 pm, JCK 880
- Orientation Luncheon – If possible, Senators should plan to attend the New Faculty Orientation Luncheon on August 22 in Flowers Hall, Room 230. Senators should arrive at 11:45. Typically, Senators are seated throughout the room (at least one Senator per table) to facilitate interaction with new faculty members.
- President’s Academic Advisory Group (PAAG)
Meetings will be in JCK 880 from 4:00 to 6:00pm unless otherwise noted.
 - September 12
 - October 10
 - November 7
 - December 5 (Regents’ Room)
 - February 13
 - March 6
 - April 3
 - May 1 (Regents’ Room)

Committee Appointments

- International Advisory Council – This is a new council. The Senate and each College will appoint a member.
- Faculty Handbook Committee – The Senate approved the appointment of a new committee member from Applied Arts.
- Research Enhancement Committee -- The Senate approved the appointment of a new committee member from Applied Arts.

- Upcoming appointments to the Marketable Skills Committee and Work Life Council were discussed. Janet will follow up for the next meeting.
- Presidential Award Committees were also discussed.
 - Scholarly/Creative - For the next meeting, Senator Vacaflares will recruit a new member from McCoy College.
 - Service – Senator Ceballos will recruit a new member from Liberal Arts. We will also need a new recruit from Science & Engineering.
 - Teaching – Senator Gainer will recruit a new member from Education. Senator White will look at the list of former winners for possible recruits from Fine Arts and Communications and Health Professions. Senator Bell-Metereau will recruit a new member from Liberal Arts.
- Environment and Sustainability – For the next meeting, Senator Bell-Metereau will recruit a student representative for this committee. The senate will discuss naming a chair for this committee.
- Others to be discussed in future meetings include Academic Standards Committee, Curriculum Committee, and Honor Code Council.

Announcement

- Senators are encouraged to attend the Nontenure Line Faculty Reception on September 20 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at The Wittliff (7th Floor, Alkek Library). Bring Nontenure Line Faculty from your departments to the event with you!

Meeting minutes from June 20 were approved.

4:27pm Adjournment by Chair Alex White

Minutes submitted by Natalie Ceballos, Secretary