Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

February 5, 2009

Present:

Tom McNeilis  Theda Wrede
Jerry Harris   Munir Mundil
Shane Prine   Jack Lounsbury
Dennis Martinez  Martha Talman
Costel Ionita  Chizu Jaret
Dennis Wignall  Vicky O’Neal (in for Betty Stokes)
Paul Abegg

• Approval of previous minutes
• Old Business:
  o Adjunct Manual & web site
    ▪ Web site to be modeled after similarly-themed SUNY web site
    ▪ Web site needs to be designed & information inserted; Shane Prine offered to find a student to do this
  o Web site for syllabus information
    ▪ Academic Council needs to approve entire set of information to be included (even though many individual items already approved)
  o Athletics – how does it contribute to the campus as a whole?
    ▪ Increased spending on athletics can/should/ought to bring concomitant increase in enrollment (and therefore tuition), so spending on athletics sis actually in faculty’s best interest to support
      ▪ Incoming athletes themselves may stabilize some majors (e.g., Communication)
      ▪ Increased tuition money then spent on departments
    ▪ Statistics of this being examined.
    ▪ 3.5-4% of school budget going toward athletics is typical and does not detract from spending on academics
      ▪ DSC’s athletics currently underfunded
  • New Business:
    o Is President Nadauld taking too much time when addressing full Faculty Senate?
      ▪ Should he be allowed to do this if it detracts from Senate business or even just socializing?
• Benefits of interdepartmental socializing, even if Senate docket is empty, is valuable in and of itself
  o Who has been inviting the press to full Faculty Senate meetings when President Nadauld is addressing the Senate?
    ▪ Senate meetings not open to the public
  o Donna and Pam will both be addressing the next full Faculty Senate meeting
    ▪ Donna will discuss status of U of U affiliation
    ▪ Pam will address concerns with RTP policy as it applies to those covered under the “old” policy during the transition period
      • Much animated discussion among Executive Committee members concerning different versions of information coming from Donna, Pam, and/or others
  o Freshman Experience class
    ▪ 1 credit hour, 2 hours/week class work taught be a member of every department
    ▪ Intended to encourage new students to choose a major
      • Not yet approved by Curriculum Committee
      • Will be discussed at next Academic Council
    ▪ Some confusion exists whether the class is a G.E. elective or a college requirement (it’s both – the current class description phraseology makes this confusing)
    ▪ Since someone in each department will be required to teach this, will a content course that that particular faculty member would otherwise be teaching have to be cancelled?
      ▪ Will FE course be considered overload?
    ▪ Will this course end up being used by individual departments for propagandistic purposes to attempt to convince incoming Freshman to declare a major in that department?
      ▪ If so, is this fair? How can this be avoided so that students truly get the material for which the course is intended (e.g., how to read a textbook, how to talk to a professor, etc.)
  o Tabled New Business:
    ▪ Diversity statement (Deneka Souberbielle)
    ▪ Program review policy
      ▪ Form subcommittee & new committee
    ▪ Replacement for Susan Ertel in Best Practices
  • Next Meeting: Full Faculty Senate, Thursday, Feb. 12, 2009 at 12:00 P.M. in the Gardner Center