

Faculty Senate Minutes November 19, 2009 4:00 pm in ELC 405

Attendance: Gerry Calvasina (Faculty Senate President), Nathan Barker, David Berri, Robin Boneck (Treasurer), Emily Dean, Boyd Fife, Fred Govedich, Alan Hamlin, Michael Harvey (Parliamentarian), Derek Hein, Deb Hill (President-elect), Bruce Howard, John Howell, Lawrence Johnson, Mark Miller, Kevin Stein, Michael Ostrowsky, Philip Roché, Matt Schmidt, Julie Taylor, Andreas Weingartner (Secretary), Wei-Ying Hsiao (Proxy for Tony Pellegrini), Tim Lewis (Visitor), Virginia Stitt (Visitor), Vik Brown (Visitor), Les Jones (Visitor), Jess Tvordi (Visitor).

1. Call to Order by Faculty Senate President Calvasina
2. Review and approval of minutes from the October meeting.
Motion to approve the minutes with the correction of one spelling error and seconded.
Minutes are approved unanimously.
3. Jennifer Hunter: Training Committee
Training is offered every Thursday at 2 PM. Adobe software (full version) is needed for creating PDF documents. Alan Hamlin made the motion to support the purchase of Adobe Acrobat (Version 9) software to create PDF documents. The motion was seconded by Deb Hill and passed unanimously.
4. Gerry Calvasina: President's Report
Student Evaluation Process. Alan Hamlin: There was a discussion in the Dean's Council as to who develops the new evaluation model. Michael Harvey motions, and David Berri seconds the motion to add "(including deans and department chairs)" to faculty under Section A 2. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Deb Hill: Panel of speakers on 'Contemporary Liberal Education'
Deb Hill asks the faculty senate to sponsor (without fiscal responsibility) a panel of speakers on contemporary liberal education. Emily Dean makes a motion to this effect. The motion was seconded by Mark Miller. The discussion was about the timing (in two weeks), which is due to a January deadline for the academic steering committee. The motion was approved unanimously.
6. Kevin Stein: Anti-Discrimination Policy 5.27; Proposed Excused Absence Policy; Program and Course Fees Policy 6.42;

Program and Course Fees Policy 6.42: The Dean's Council made minor changes to the policy after the senate last voted on it. Robin Boneck made the motion to approve the changes. Deb Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Proposed Excused Absence Policy: The Academic Affairs Committee made minor changes to the proposed policy. Motion to approve these changes by Fred Govedich, seconded by Alan Hamlin. The motion was approved unanimously.

Anti-Discrimination Policy 5.27: The academic affairs committee considered the suggestions from faculty since the last meeting and made changes accordingly. Continuation of the discussion during the October senate meeting. The issue is whether sexual orientation should be included as a protected status in Section 3 of the policy, and, if it is included, where it should be included.

Deb Hill makes a motion to include sexual orientation as a protected status somewhere in the policy. Emily Dean seconds the motion. The motion carried with 16 in favor and 2 opposed.

Alan Hamlin makes the motion to include sexual orientation only in the Discrimination section but not in the Hostile-Environment Harassment section. Boyd Fife seconds the motion. The motion failed with 4 in favor, 12 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Deb Hill makes the motion to include sexual orientation as a protected status in the section on Hostile-Environment Harassment as well as in the section on Discrimination. Emily Dean seconds the motion. The motion carried with 15 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention.

Deb Hill motions to table the discussion on the remaining sections of this policy. Robin Boneck seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Other Business

Less Jones: The issue is whether Policy 6.22 (Faculty Due Process) applies to faculty in general or only to tenured faculty. The interpretation of some administrators is that Policy 6.22 only applies to tenured faculty. The concern is that if a single accusation against a tenure-track faculty member is sufficient grounds for termination, then academic freedom is in danger. Tenure-track faculty should have a right to due-process. Policy 6.22 states that it applies to faculty, thus it should apply to tenure-track and tenured faculty.

President Calvasina states that this issue will be considered by the Academic Affairs Committee, which will work to clarify the policy.

Alan Hamlin: Denise Woodberry (past faculty senate president) is in the hospital. The senate agreed to buy flowers for her.

8. Motion for Executive Session

Motion (Deb Hill) for executive session. Motion was approved unanimously.

9. Motion to Adjourn

Next Meeting: January 28, 2009 @ 4:00 pm in ELC Room 405