Faculty Senate Minutes

August 26, 2010

4:00 PM in ELC 405


- Approval of minutes motioned and 2nd at 4:01 by Mike Ostrowsky
  - In notes change Deg to Deb and July for Julie.
- Provost will not be attending today’s meeting

President’s Report:

- Board of Trustees approved the following policies: 6.2, 6.14, 6.36, 8.2.6, and 5.27.

Regarding course syllabus policy (6.36), Allan Hamlin suggested links for the four statements instead of handing out physical hard copies of additions. Note, syllabus not a binding contract, but catalog is a binding contract.

  Action: Deb will check with Provost and AG to determine only links can be in syllabus.

Treasure’s Report:

  Faculty senate has $2,182.00 for operating expenses and travel budget, $4800.00 for scholarship, and $5800.00 for operating fund. Scholarship fund increases slowly every year.

New Business:

- Rachel Kirk suggested reviewing policy 6.2.2, due process for non-tenured faculty person. Has this policy changes and why or why not?
  - SUU does have due process for employees, but full judicial process is not guaranteed until tenure. Employees are hired at will until tenure. Action: Deb will approach Mike Carter and invite him to review policy and clear up any confusion. Virginia advised Deb to ask Mike to offer information to all faculty.

- Rachel Kirk questioned the new fee structure for Hunter Conference Center. Every year the French, German, and language department has fairs for high school students. Center is charging $3.00. Can this fee be waved?
  - Continue Education no longer runs the conference center. Student Services runs conferencing. VP Donna Eddleman wants to see profit, which means there is a new cost for outsiders to visit the institution ($3.00 a person). Action: Deb will invite VP Eddleman to FS.
Tony Pellegrini asked if we have Thursdays 11-1:30pm as a down time for faculty meetings, advisor club time, etc. Right now 26 classes are scheduled at that time because some departments want to teach at that time and rooms are not available. Some colleges do not have priority. Allan Hamlin shared that his department has talked about no classes on Friday. Fred Govedich made the motion to ask the Provost about setting aside a day/time, motion was 2nd by Mike Ostrowsky and motioned carried. Action: Deb will take this issue to the provost and registrar.

FS Projects. FS Executive Council wondered if faculty senate would like to facilitate a learning community to help faculty seeking a leadership role. Additionally, SUU struggles to find female faculty to step up into leadership roles (chairs). Workshops could help educate colleagues. Do we need more integration between disciplines to help new faculty such as faculty sponsored morning tea? Do we need more activities to help with retention of faculty by introducing new faculty to all disciplines? This could be done if we resurrect the “sand box” which use to help faculty learn about new technology.

Questions: Is our plate is full? Should we add another objective? Leadership workshops are a good idea, but maybe we should wait a few months. FS tables the discussion until the Center for Excellence is up and running.

University Committees: Are all of the faculty and committees filled? All positions are now on a three year rotation. Chairs are set and they should be contacting you if you are on a committee.

Salary Overloads/Workloads and Contracts: This year employee’s salary will be capped at 22% above their nine month base. Summer can be in addition. College of Education is looking at changing contracts to deal with this change. Allan Hamlin stated that hopefully we will not have to rely on summer overload to make a descent salary. This change is to protect us because overload can get us in trouble.

Question: Is there compensation for class size. Yes, there is a formula applied and faculty will be compensated for class size over 60 face to face and 25 on-line.

Allan Hamlin would like to see faculty parking? Motion did not carry.

Adjourned 5:01 PM