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2010-10-15 Minutes of the Academic Senate

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Approved
Minutes of the Academic Senate
October 15, 2010; 3 p.m.
Kennedy Union Ballroom

Present: Judith Huacuja, Andrea M Seielstad, Bradley D Duncan, Heidi G Gauder, Joseph E Saliba, Leno M Pedrotti, Corinne Daprano, Rebecca Wells, George Doyle, Kimberly Trick, Carol Harper, David Biers, Matthew Shank, Emily Jirles, Briana Hollis, Carolyn Roecker-Phelps, John McCombe, Ruihua Liu, Jim Dunne, Vinod Jain, Stephen Richards, John White, Jonathan Hess, Kevin Kelly, Sheila Hassel Hughes, Katherine Treppe, Kara Dickey, Alex Renner, Heidi McGrew

Absent: Paul Benson, Art Jipson, Lisa Kloppenberg, Laura Hume, Thomas Brady, Shawn Swavey, Tony Saliba

Guests: James Farrelly, Kathy Webb, Ed Mykytka, Linda Hartley

Opening meditation: Kevin Kelley opened the meeting with a mediation.

Minutes: The minutes of the September 17, 2010 meeting were approved.

Announcements:

J. Huacuja announced that the next Senate meeting will be in Boll Theater on November 12, 2010. It will be a shared meeting with the full faculty.

J. Farrelly announced that the Faculty Board and ECAS will host a meeting tentatively entitled "Faculty Voice in University Governance: Silent or Silenced, Consulted or Ignored" sometime during week of November 15. The exact time and date is forthcoming.

J. Huacuja announced that Joyce Carter was invited but unable to attend today's meeting. She announced further that November is the open enrollment time for employees to change their healthcare plans. The healthcare benefits remain the same. Anthem continues to be the carrier. Premier Health partner and Anthem reached agreement such that hospitals will remain in network. The Anthem Plan Renewal is based on a 14.7% inflation rate for 2011. As a result some employee costs will be increased. Consult Human Resources for plan details.

Old business:

Committee Reports:

Faculty Affairs Committee (FAC). Rebecca Wells announced that the FAC met twice since the last Senate meeting. Both meetings were on the discussion of student evaluation of instruction process and focused on the root purpose of student evaluation of faculty here at UD and in other universities as well. Canvassed purposes include use of student evaluations for faculty development, administrative review, student satisfaction, professionalism and preparedness of faculty, etc. The committee is evaluating whether the practice of conducting student evaluations should continue to take place and, if so, for what purposes and goals. Then it will design a methodology and instrument that is consistent with whatever purposes are identified and agreed upon. The committee has reviewed secondary research from relevant journal articles and is taking advantage of expertise on campus. The next meeting will be on October 22 from 1-2:30 p.m. in the 7th Floor Conference Room in the Business School.

University Nominations and Recruitment Committee (UNRC). Art Jipson relayed a report to J. Huacuja, who briefly discussed it with the Senate. Over the past year, this committee was developing policy. They have reviewed a set of suggestions from ECAS and will present a second draft to ECAS on October 25. The document addresses a procedure for obtaining nominations that will add diversity to university committees as well as methods of gathering information about and conducting outreach about available committee positions to faculty, new staff, and student government. Additionally, the committee is developing a process for collecting information about committees that maybe be posted online so the information maybe be easily accessed by campus community. University-wide committees will be included, not deans' level committee.

Student Academic Policies Committee (SAPC). C. Daprano reported that the committee met on October 1 to review the status of issues considered by the committee last year, including the academic dishonesty form, student evaluation of teaching issue, and results of a pilot project on online evaluation of teaching conducted last year and assessed by David Wright. They are trying to find a better time to meet than the usual Friday morning time at 9:30. She requested schedules from students on the committee. She indicated that there was some discussion of possibly looking at the university attendance policy, but presently the committee does not have any pressing issues to review.

Senate Voting Rights Subcommittee. B. Duncan reported that the committee met twice thus far to discuss its charge. So far, it had been studying the historical context of voting rights of Associate Provost and Dean position with assistance by Jim Farrelly. They also had been brainstorming ideas about how to address the voting rights issue but have yet to come to consensus on the matter.

Academic Policies Committee (APC). John Hess announced that the committee met and approved Senate Document **I-10-05, Revisions to Graduate Transfer Credits and Related Policies**. At its next meeting, it will review the Academic Dishonesty and Misconduct Form. The goal of that document is to get better consistency in reporting across university units. It will consider whether the form provides effective means for faculty, chair, and deans to report and track repeat offenders.

Executive Committee (ECAS). J. Huacuja announced that the committee meets weekly at 11:00 in St. Mary's Hall and that meetings are open to everyone. Thus far, ECAS has reviewed the Graduate Credit Transfer Policy and approved it for Senate action during today's meeting. She then introduced the subject for consideration of the Senate's new business for the day.

New Business.

Revisions to Graduate Transfer Credits and Related Policies, Senate Document I-10-05.

J. Hess led a discussion of the foregoing policies, prepared and submitted to the Senate by E. Mykytka. The document had been approved by both APC and ECAS and was placed on the floor for discussion and approval based upon a motion by J. Hess and seconded by B. Duncan.

Professor Jain proposed the following friendly amendment to Proposal 3: "A student who either possesses a master's degree from the University of Dayton or is currently studying toward one and wishes to obtain an additional master's degree in a related field (as determined by the program chair/director of the second

degree), in such cases up to six semester hours from the first degree may be applied toward the requirements of the second, i.e., at most six semester hours may be shared between the two degrees.”

Discussion ensued about the clarity of the above-referenced parenthetical and members H. McGrew, A. Seielstad and S. Hughes suggested revisions to the amended language.

Proposal 3 as amended then read: “In some cases, a student who either possesses a master’s degree from the University of Dayton or is currently studying toward one wishes to obtain an additional master’s degree in a related field. In such cases, up to six semester hours from the first degree may be applied toward the requirements of the second, i.e., at most six semester hours may be shared between the two degrees. The determination of which, if any, hours may be applied toward the requirements of the second degree will be made by the chair or director of the second degree program, in consultation with the student’s advisor in the second program.”

Also, it was agreed that the redundant “the” should be deleted from paragraph 2 and today’s date should be put at the top of the document.

E. Mykytka reviewed the history and purpose of the document and its proposed revisions. The aim was largely to put into writing practices already in place. It also clarifies that only grades of B or higher (rather, than B-) may be transferred into UD because it is necessary to have a 3.0 g.p.a or better in order to be in good standing in a graduate program at UD. Thesis or dissertation hours are excluded from transfer because they should be completed in close proximity with faculty advisor in the graduate program, although provisions do allow for exemption in certain cases. Furthermore, while this document establishes the general university standards for transfer of graduate credit, individual programs can set more stringent standards.

A brief discussion ensued. One Senator raised questions about comparisons with other institutions in the numbers of credit hours that may be transferred. E. Mykytka indicated that most typically allow six credits to be transferred.

The document was called for a vote. It passed with 28 yeas, no nays, and one abstention.

Members were reminded by J. Huacuja that the November 12 meeting is a shared Senate/Faculty meeting regarding budget and will be held in Boll Theater.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Seielstad