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2011-09-16 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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Approved
Minutes of Academic Senate
Friday, September 16; 3:00 p.m.
KU West Ballroom


Absent: Linda Hartley, Leno Pedrotti, Joe Castellano, Heather Parsons

Guests: Jim Farrelly, Bill Fischer, Shannon Miller, Don Pair, Sawyer Hunley, Sundar Kumarasamy, Pat Donnelly, Jack O’Gormen, Lisa Rismiller

Opening Meditation: Laura Leming opened the meeting with a meditation

Minutes: Minutes of the April 15, 2011 meeting were approved

Announcements: K. Webb announced that the OhioLink budget for e-journals and databases is being reduced due to cuts in the state capital budget. These cuts could result in a 40-50% loss of titles from the databases by January 1. She will provide the ASenate (AS) with an update at the next meeting in October.

J. Saliba welcomed K. Webb to her first meeting as a member of the AS after last year’s passage of Senate DOC I-11-01 (Senate Voting Rights) granting the Dean of University Libraries a voting seat on the AS.

The January meeting of the AS is scheduled for January 20 and will be held in the River Campus Auditorium.

Old Business:
Committee Reports.
Academic Policies Committee. C. Phelps reported that the APC is currently reviewing revisions suggested by ECAS to the Student Academic Misconduct form. After making these revisions the form will be presented again to ECAS for review.

Student Academic Policies Committee G. Doyle reported that the SAPC had not yet met and that their first meeting of the year will be on Wednesday, September 21.

Faculty Affairs Committee. R. Wells reported that the FAC will be working on completing the following issues this year: 1) student evaluation of teaching (SET); 2) review of the Faculty Workload Policy per Senate DOC 95-01; 3) an addendum to the UD Intellectual Policy document; and, 4) a review of the outside employment and consensual relationships policies.

J. Dunne asked why the FAC was reviewing the faculty workload policy now. J. Farrelly indicated that Senate DOC 95-01 called for a review of the policy after 3 years. The review was never completed.

S. Hughes reviewed a draft report of SET and recommendations that will be put forward by FAC.

The next meeting of the FAC is scheduled for September 27, 2011 at 3 PM in KU 207
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate. J. Hess reported on the issues currently being discussed by ECAS. First, he reviewed the issue of consultation specifically, clarity of where consultation is needed and the relationship between faculty and the administration. At the Sept. 8 ECAS meeting a two-step approach was suggested to resolve this issue. This approach would include: 1) the Senate and administration coming to a common understanding of what the Senate Constitution requires right now; and, 2) agreeing on the means of seeking more input or the dispersion of more information in the future. Second, he reported that ECAS plans to constitute the UNRC for this academic year and that work assigned to the UNRC would be put on hold until ECAS can complete this task. Third, J. Hess indicated that he updated the Senate Constitution to reflect the addition of the Dean of Libraries as a voting member of the Senate and added language clarifying the Graduate Dean’s voting rights per Senate DOC I-11-01.

F’11 Admissions Update. Sundar Kumarasamy, VP of Enrollment Management (EM) presented a Fall ‘11 admissions update to the AS. After the presentation several members of the Senate asked questions about overall enrollment trends and UD’s recruitment strategy. Provost Saliba indicated that the administration set a goal of enrolling 1,850 first year students. Enrollment this year exceeded that number and the intent is to not go below this number for future entering classes. Additionally, UD’s retention rate is at an all-time high. P. Benson asked about selective enrollment and S. Kumarasamy indicated that EM’s strategy is to recruit for fit. A. Mari asked about the retention rate for diverse students and S. Kumarasamy responded that the rate was comparable to UD’s overall retention rate.

Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Response. Pat Donnelly, Associate Provost for Faculty & Administrative Affairs, reported on the HLC’s response to UD’s Institutional Report on Diversity. The HLC response was received in June and it was a positive report. The HLC response commended UD for tying its diversity goals to its mission. No further reports on institutional diversity are required until 2017-18 when the next comprehensive report is due. Planning for completion of the next report will occur in 2013 and the taskforce will begin working on report in 2014.

Alcohol Task Force. P. Donnelly reviewed the task force’s charge from the Provost and final report. He indicated that the task force gathered student and program data as well as consulting with Outside the Classroom, an alcohol abuse prevention organization, throughout the process. The task force also relied on UD’s Commitment to Community document to provide a context in which to discuss the issue of alcohol abuse by UD students. The task force’s recommendations involve a focused, coordinated and sustained approach to this issue. Further, people and units across campus must be engaged in efforts to combat problem alcohol use at UD.

Several members of the Senate commented on the task force’s report. R. Wells asked how UD will know if it has succeeded or not succeeded in tackling this issue. P. Donnelly reported that there are several recommended goals and measures in the task force report including a reduction in the number of students transported to Miami Valley Hospital for alcohol related abuse as well as a reduction in the number of sexual misconduct cases associated with alcohol. L. Leming asked if greater restrictions regarding alcohol abuse could be placed on students living in UD housing. P. Donnelly indicated that as a campus community we need to agree on what we’re not willing to tolerate and what policies we are actually willing to enforce. T. Lau asked about the link between academic rigor and the issue of alcohol abuse. P. Donnelly would like to address this issue further in the November AS meeting and acknowledged that there is an ingrowned alcohol culture at UD.

Sexual Misconduct, Education, Prevention & Response Task Force. Bill Fischer, VP, of Student Development reviewed the task force’s charge from the Provost to analyze all student UD sexual misconduct and assault related processes, protocols, and practices. Further the task force report includes a set of recommendations for sexual misconduct policies, response protocols, and education
and prevention programs/services that reflect current and best practices. Recent actions by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights have created a national urgency around the issue of sexual violence on college campuses. The nine recommendations in the task force report are a response to the April 4, 2011 OCR’s “Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence.” The recommendations also address how UD can best respond effectively and quickly to this issue. One major recommendation from the task force is to “establish and institutionalize prevention education” at UD. To coordinate these efforts a Coordinator of Sexual Violence Prevention Education will be hired. Further, a Title IX Coordinator will be appointed this year as well.

**Judicial Review Process.** Debra Monk, Assistant Dean of Students reviewed UD’s current Student Conduct System and highlighted the judicial review process. Several members of the Senate asked questions about the Student Conduct System. J. Mc Combe asked how information from a character reference that is written by a faculty member is used during the judicial review process. D. Monk indicated that the character reference Information is used in the consequence stage. The information contained in a character reference letter may mitigate and/or impact the consequences meted out to students. C. Krane asked about the level of reporting. D. Monk indicated that only students who are found responsible for violations of the Student Code of Conduct are reported. L. Leming asked why the academic misconduct policy is not a part of the Student Conduct System. D. Monk indicated that her office was willing to support record keeping for academic misconduct violations. Provost Saliba indicated that there needs to be an examination of the alignment between the academic misconduct policy and Student Conduct System.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Corinne Daprano