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2002-09-13 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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1. **Opening Prayer**

   Brian Conniff began the meeting with a prayer to St. Justin, martyr, patron saint of lecturers and philosophers.

2. **Roll Call**

   Thirty of forty-one Senators were present.

3. **Approval of Minutes**

   The minutes of April 19, 2002 were approved.

4. **Announcements**

   Dr. Dan Curran attended the opening minutes of the Academic Senate meeting. He spoke of his experience on a Faculty Senate, and noted his appreciation of our Senate organization and composition. He also emphasized that communication is important both up and down the chain to colleagues.

5. **Committee Reports**

   **Student Academic Policies Committee:** The group is currently without a chair, as no one from the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate is on the committee. Brian Conniff will meet with the SAP to work out a solution.

   **Academic Policies Committee:** Jim Dunne reported for the APC. The group will be looking at 4 issues this semester:
   
   - **Quantitative Reasoning Competencies:** A subcommittee of the APC will be working on a revision of the quantitative reasoning competencies. Joe Saliba heads that group.
   
   - **General Education Policy:** The document is more than 10 years old. The APC will be reviewing Section II, Rationale and Goals.
• Residency requirements: Some clarification is needed, as the language in the Bulletin is inconsistent with the changing environment of the campus (i.e., Study Abroad, online programs, etc.).

• Final exams for graduating seniors: This issue has been assigned to all committees.

Faculty Affairs Committee: Harry Gerla reported that the group would be meeting shortly. The group will be working on the following issues:

• Maternity/paternity leave and the tenure clock: Last school year the FAC drafted an amendment and additional language changes for the current University Policy on faculty tenure. This item should be ready for a vote at the next Senate meeting.

• Research professorships: A revised draft of the research professorships proposal was distributed for discussion. The Provost has asked that this issue be fast-tracked.

6. Election of Student Representative to the ECAS

The Humanities student senator seat remains unfilled. A student election will take place September 26, so there will be a new student senator at the next Academic Senate meeting, at which time a student representative to the ECAS will be elected.

7. Honors Convocation

Paul Morman, Steve Dandaneau and Jayne Robinson distributed a proposal to establish a University Honors Symposium and Convocation. This new program would be a presentation and dedication to academic achievement and build upon the current Stander Symposium, which suffers from less visibility because classes are in session. This new proposal recommends that the University suspend classes for a day to celebrate academic excellence. The details such as funding remain to be worked out, but it is recommended that the Honors Office manage the effort.

The Executive Committee expressed some concern already about the title, that it implies the program is exclusive for the Honors and Scholars program. Steve Dandaneau suggested the Brother Stander Symposium and Honors Convocation, which also makes explicit the link to the Marianist spirit and tradition.

Questions

Q: Will this class day be made up?
A: The school calendar will be expanded by one day.

Q: This new program might be seen as a free day. How much of the undergraduate population do you expect will participate?
A: It is hard to say when establishing a tradition. It is the University’s challenge to build up an audience and recruit participants.

Comment: Are there any other issues associated with this change to the academic calendar, issues such as maintenance work with Alpha & Omega and other outside contractors?

Q: Will there be an outside speaker?
A: At other places with similar models, outside speakers have been brought in to help advance the conference theme. We hope that parents come, that it provides the opportunity to reinforce to our constituents the University of Dayton’s academic achievement.

Q: Will there be a review process for presenters? Will there be awards?
A: This new program is not intended to be a school “open-house.” The focus will be on only the best students producing at a high level.

Q: Will there be oral presentations?
A: It is expected that students will make presentations in a variety of ways. The emphasis will be on the students, but another factor is faculty input.

Q: What is the next step?
A: The proposal will go before the Provost’s Council. Steve Dandaneau is unsure if there is anything for the Academic Senate to review; if such is the case, ECAS will assign.

8. Senate Meetings on Flyer TV

The question arose about whether the Academic Senate meetings should be broadcast on Flyer TV. Since Udit funds the broadcast and would continue to fund the effort, it was decided that the meetings would continue to be filmed, with possible review at a later date.

9: Appointments to Academic Committees, Councils and Boards

The Committee on Committees was disbanded some time ago, and ECAS was tasked with forming a new committee. In preparation for this new task, ECAS asked Jane Rogatto and Judy Owen to contact the lead person on each committee, council and board and to verify status, membership, etc. Their survey indicated the groups are functioning fine on their own, and it was determined there was not much for ECAS to do. However, given the perception that the same people are always appointed to the exclusion of new faculty, ECAS will act primarily as a referral/clearinghouse—publishing a list of committees, reminding faculty of committee opportunities, and facilitating the interaction of prospective members with groups. ECAS will also check on the committees, councils and boards periodically and remind them of ECAS as a resource.

Questions

Q: The enclosed committee chart lacks uniformity in description. How was this information gathered?
A: The chairs or lead members of the committee were contacted and they supplied the information.

Q: Is this a new responsibility for ECAS?
A: Yes. ECAS feels that the members of each committee are better at recruiting.

10. Organizational Meetings of Standing Committees

The senate meeting adjourned to separate meetings of the senate subcommittees at 3:45pm.

Respectfully submitted: Heidi Gauder, Secretary of the Academic Senate