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2013-10-18 Minutes of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate

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Approved
Minutes of the Academic Senate
Friday, October 18, 2013; 3:00 pm
KU West Ballroom


Guests: Pat Donnelly, Tom Burkhardt, Jim Farrelly, Jonathan Hess, Amit Singh, Mark Nielsen, David Darrow, Bill Fischer, Molly Schaller, Deb Bickford, Paul Vanderburgh, Ted Bucaro, Jean Dossous, Katie Huesman

Absent: Paul Benson, Kurt Mosser, Carissa Krane, Jasmine Lahoud, Eric Taglieri, Joe Watras, Vinod Jain, Harry Gerla

Opening Prayer/Meditation: J. Mashburn opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: Minutes of the September 27, 2013 meeting were approved with one correction (22 yes, 0 no, 2 abstain). Motion made by L. Leming and seconded by J. Mashburn.

Announcements:
C. Phelps announced that the agenda for the first meeting of the new ELC was scheduled for November 4, 2013 is being finalized and should be available soon.

K. Webb issued a blanket invitation to the Marian Library’s 70th anniversary reception at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, October 22, 2013 in Roesch Library.

J. Farrelly announced that today was the last day to place a lunch order for the Faculty Association SET discussion on Tuesday, October 22, 2013. At last count, 37 people had signed up.

Committee Reports:

APC: J. Dunne reported that the committee has met twice since the last senate meeting. They have taken the following actions:

1. **Degree Programs & Departments.** The committee has completed a draft document that consolidates the policies and procedures for all actions for academic degree programs (including majors) and academic departments. The document has been sent to the academic units for their review and comment. Based on this review, they will forward the proposed document to ECAS within the next few weeks.

2. **Honors Courses.** The committee is deliberating on a proposal to note in some way courses taken for honors credit on students’ academic transcripts. The committee met with the Director of the Honors Program and with representatives from the Registrar’s office. They reviewed information gathered about comparable universities and their practices. The committee is generally favorable to this proposal and will communicate to the ECAS shortly.

3. **Student Evaluation of Teaching.** The committee is conducting a review of the recommendations of the SET Committee. Based on the request from ECAS, they are examining the questions of the
proposed instrument, how it would be delivered on-line, whether incentives will be used to improve response rate, what standard instructions should be used, and if any information about student respondents should be known – for improved understanding of results. In our deliberations, they have invited representatives from the SET Committee to assist them – particularly in understanding the work and the recommendations. They plan to spend several meetings with this issue.

4. **Undergraduate Certificates.** This is a new issue for the committee. The university presently has a policy for Graduate Certificates but not policy for such undergraduate programs. The committee has been tasked to examine whether there is a need for such a policy at the undergraduate level and, if so, draft such a proposal. They have just begun this investigation.

**FAC:** L. Hartley gave the following report:

1) The FAC has met twice since the last Senate meeting.

2) We have a subcommittee working on the issue of University Intellectual Property Policy and Procedures. As a reminder, the Senate passed a document in January 2012 with the recommendation to revise the University's 1994 IP policy. However UDRI continues to work on the policy and therefore the senate’s January 2012 recommendation has not yet been incorporated in the IP policy. The main issue is centered on the topic of ownership of online course materials. A subcommittee of FAC met earlier today to discuss the completion of this revision and any issues that yet need to be resolved. The subcommittee is comprised of P. Donnelly, P. Vanderburgh, M. Willenbrink, S. Cassiman, and L. Hartley.

3) FAC has held preliminary discussions on our assignments for SET policies and procedures. We asked the SET committee to provide us more specific procedural policies (vs. suggestions). At this time, the SET committee has a working draft that will continue to be revised upon FAC discussion and feedback.

4) FAC has discussed Instructional Staff Titles:

   a. Clinical Faculty Appointment – We do not currently have this title, however SEHS has expressed the need for this title to reflect faculty who are not on tenure track and work primarily in the clinical setting, but also have a modest teaching assignment. Dr. Barbara De Luca (SEHS Associate Dean) has been assigned this topic for SEHS and attended our last FAC meeting to explain the need for this title. She and others in SEHS are researching similar titles from other universities and will be providing FAC a description and rationale for the Clinical Faculty Appointment within the next few weeks.

   b. Distinguished Service Professor – This title *is* in the Faculty Handbook, however its definition is unclear. FAC is seeking to add clarity to the description, focusing on *when* a professor may hold this title (current faculty standing vs. retirement). Additionally, we also discussed the definition of DSP in regards to including ‘service’. Currently the description reads, “Distinguished Service Professor may be awarded to an individual currently a member of the faculty who has contributed long years of service to the University and who has demonstrated truly exceptional service to the University community as a teacher, researcher, or academic administrator.” We are working on adding the word ‘service’ to the categories of contributions made.

   c. Research Professor - This title, created 10 years ago and approved by the senate, needs to be revisited in light of the new category of Joint Faculty Appointment (approved last year),
and the fact that there is no evidence of President or Board approval of the senate document from 10 years ago. We have discussed the need for the faculty title of Research Professor, but will further discuss this at our next meeting.

J. Saliba stated that the President and Vice President of Research were both in favor of signing the Senate document approving the title of Research Professor. P. Donnelly explained that changes to the joint appointment description may have had an impact so some modifications may be needed.

5) FAC’s next meeting will be held on November 7.

SAPC: J. McCombe reported that the SAPC had met once since the September Senate meeting.

Following up on their earlier conversations and information-gathering related to the Student Code of Conduct and the language pertaining to “student-run businesses and commercial activity,” the SAPC decided to draft a series of recommendations for ensuring a policy that would better create a campus climate conducive to entrepreneurship, while also taking into account the best interests of various interested parties across campus (e.g., Student Development, The Office of Legal Affairs, etc.).

Prior to the drafting of such recommendations, the Senate’s Executive Committee, in consultation with the Provost, suggested that a task force, either out of the Provost’s Office or the School of Business Administration—one including representation from Legal Affairs and Student Development—could pursue the matter in greater detail. Such a task force might then bring a series of recommendations back to the Senate.

The other on-going agenda item is some conversation and information-gathering related to the University’s current policies on “political activity on campus,” a subject to be discussed at the present Senate meeting (18 October 2013). The agenda for the next scheduled SAPC meeting will include an opportunity for the committee to discuss “next steps” relative to a possible expansion/revision of this policy.

The next SAPC meeting: Monday, October 28 at 9:00 a.m. in HM 257.

ECAS: C. Phelps reported that ECAS has been working on the following issues:

- Assigned SET tasks to FAC and APC and set up liaisons.
- The agenda for the first ELC meeting will include facilities, budget, and libraries.
- A task force of representatives of SBA, Student Development, and Legal Affairs is being formed to discuss the student-run businesses policy,
- SBA has brought an issue forward about when dismissal for academic dishonesty should take place. ECAS recommended that the issue go to the Deans’ Council.
- Continuing to discuss consultation:
  - Document to lay out the process and responses by the Senate
  - Summer availability of faculty for consultation
  - Timing of seating of new Senate members and officers
  - Ways to request information so that actual consultation, not just communication can take place.

Presentation/Discussion:

Update on alcohol policy and enforcement. Bill Fischer, Vice President for Student Development, provided an update on the university’s alcohol policy, education, and enforcement. Enforcement initiatives include the following:
- Clarification of abuse and high risk behavior
- Stricter enforcement and heightened sanctions
- Additional Fellows in the Neighborhood
- Clarification and stricter enforcement of guest policies, including additional staffing and an online registration form
- Increased monitoring of student parking lots for underage alcohol possession
- Increased marketing/communication with students and parents
- Hired Alecia Smith, an alcohol education coordinator
- Continued mandatory online class prior to coming to campus
- Continued late night alcohol-free activities
- Continued individual interventions and mandatory alcohol education as part of sanctions

L. Leming asked how success with marketing efforts is measured. B. Fischer answered that there is more awareness among students. There has been no reduction in alcohol-related hospital transports yet because that is a long-term strategy. There has been a 25% increase in number of referrals for disciplinary action since last year. S. Cassiman asked what resources are available to students with pre-existing abuse. B. Fischer explained that there are several mechanisms in place, including AA meetings and housing accommodations. M. Gabbe commented that in the past there have been wait lists to see a counselor at the clinic. B. Fischer stated that this should no longer be the case. The policy states that immediate help is available for emergency situations. S. Brown asked what was being done to change the culture on campus. Are students receiving mixed messages, particularly about activities such as Dayton to Daytona and St. Patrick's Day? B. Fischer stated that significant measures have been taken in recent years to curb risk for Dayton to Dayton, including not allowing 1st year students to attend. This year the age range will also exclude 2nd year students. Measures are being taken to curb St. Patrick's Day drinking, including alternate activities and stricter enforcement. B. Fischer stated that a culture change takes time. If students want to be involved, they can contact Bill Fischer or Alecia Smith.

University Policy on Political/Electoral Activities. T. Bucaro discussed the university's policies and practices on political/electoral activities document. He stated that prior to 2008, there was no formal written policy and requests were handled through the Office of the President or the Arena. The current policies and practices document was developed to address the heavy demand of 2008 when every candidate wanted to come to campus. Bucaro explained that the main driver for the policies and procedures was the university's tax code status as a 501(c)3 entity. The document includes examples of permissible activities such as non-partisan voter registration as well as a list of prohibited activities such as the use of University resources to support political campaign activities and political advertising in official public University buildings. An event like "Rock the Vote" in 2008 would be permitted because it does not endorse any one candidate. According to Bucaro, presidential election years are the busiest. S. Cassiman asked about lobbying activities? T. Bucaro stated that lobbying is part of his job and that the university works with Strategic Marketing Innovations (SMI) on the federal level as well as a state-level advocate. M. Gabbe asked if there was any wiggle room for students to put up signs in residence hall windows or university-owned houses. T. Bucaro responded no because those would be considered public places. Students can place signs inside of their rooms. Students living in landlord-owned housing are not under the same restrictions. T. Bucaro stated that nothing prevents students from talking to one another. While they can go door-to-door in the neighborhoods, they cannot go door-to-door in the residence halls. L. Leming stated that the framing of the document does not encourage students to engage in robust political discourse. She wished for a document less driven by tax code and more by educational activities. T. Bucaro stated that few requests by students have been denied. D. SanFilippo stated that there was little information on campus about the Dayton mayoral race and asked what was more important—students or university status? T. Bucaro stated that there are avenues such as the student newspaper or radio station to get the word out to students. In cases like the Republican vice-presidential nominee announcement in 2008, the university’s facilities were not adequate to host such an event so it was held at Wright State University. Other private institutions have similar policies to ours while public institutions have different rules. B. Fischer stated that Student Development would work with T. Bucaro and others to put together a
clarifying document for students. T. Lau asked if there were any examples of the university’s tax status being threatened by inappropriate activities. T. Bucaro stated that not in his recollection. T. Burkhardt stated that the university must not give the appearance of being partisan.

A copy of the full policy can be found on Porches in the Academic Senate folder dated October 18, 2013.

Board of Trustees Meeting Update. J. Saliba stated that an orientation for new Board members was held on Tuesday, October 15th. The regular meetings of the Board were held on Wednesday and Thursday, October 16th-17th. J. Saliba mentioned the enrollment dashboard which indicates how well we are doing with the implementation of the university’s strategic plan. T. Burkhardt discussed the various audits that are performed on the university’s finances each year. He said that the federal one may be delayed because of the government shutdown. T. Burkhardt announced that the Board approved the relocation of the School of Education and Health Sciences to the CPC in 2014. He also discussed enrollment strategies and factors that impact enrollment, including changing demographics, an increase in cross-admitted students choosing a public school over a private one, and a decrease in the amount of student loan money borrowed. T. Burkhardt announced that the university would be moving toward a more socially responsible investment strategy in support of increased sustainability.

J. Saliba announced some general parameters for building next year’s budget such as keeping tuition increase under 4%, setting a goal of 1,950 first year students, capping international student enrollment at 15%, and renewing efforts to recruit more domestic minorities especially African-Americans. He stated that new initiatives to increase domestic minority recruitment include regional recruiting and more involvement from minority faculty and current students. J. Saliba also announced an initiative to promote more domestic students studying abroad and a plan to develop a dashboard specific to Academic Affairs to help improve retention rates. He also explained a new bridge program called “Breaking Bread” which brings together domestic and international students to share meals and conversation.

Upcoming changes to the university’s health care plan and the process for making those decisions was discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm

Respectfully submitted by E. Hicks