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2008-12-15 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee

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Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate  
December 15, 2008  
St. Mary’s 113 B; 1:00 PM

Present:  P. Benson, D. Biers, D. Darrow (presiding), H. Gauder, N. Jolani, L. Laubach, J. Saliba, A. Seielstad

Excused: G. Doyle, J. Greenlee, R. Kearns, A. Riechle

Guests: T. Eggemeier, J. Farrelly, E. Mykytka, T. Saliba

Opening Prayer: David Darrow opened the meeting with a prayer

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of November 24, 2008 were approved as amended.

Announcements: The first ECAS meeting for Spring 2009 semester will be January 12; the next meeting after that will be January 26. An opening prayer sign-up sheet was distributed.

Old Business: See committee reports.

Committee Reports:
1. Academic Policy Committee  
The APC continues to collect feedback on the CAP draft report.

2. Student Academic Policies Committee  
The SAPC met and is recommending the formation of a new committee/taskforce, ERIC (Evaluation, Review and Innovation Committee). This working group would review the “Wilhoit document,” which originally looked at alternative methods of evaluating teaching, and make recommendations for moving forward. The group would be comprised of members from the LTC and the Academic Senate; representation would include 3 undergraduates, 1 graduate student, 1 member of the LTC, and 4 faculty members (2 each from Student Academic Policies Committee and Faculty Affairs Committee).

3. Faculty Affairs Committee  
a. A current senator on the FAC will be unable to attend meetings in the Spring semester and is requesting a new committee assignment. The senator will be reassigned to the Academic Policy Committee. No replacements will be needed on FAC.

   b. Changes suggested by ECAS were incorporated in the latest draft of the maternity leave proposal; modifications included a definition for multiple year appointments, plans for modified duties, and establishing policy responsibility with the Provost’s office. Concerns were raised about language relating to the multiple year appointment and such fit with faculty contracts. No further changes were recommended. The maternity leave policy will now be on the January 23, 2009 Academic Senate agenda.

New Business:

1. M.S. Program in Bioengineering. ECAS was asked for input as to the feasibility of the proposed document in its current form and recommendations for the Academic Senate approval process. This bioengineering program would be an interdisciplinary effort between the School of Engineering and the College of Arts
& Sciences, with a projected start date of Fall 2010. Although there are currently four concentrations listed in the proposal, the program would likely start with two concentrations (Biochemical Process Engineering and Biomaterials). Program administration would be a coordinated effort, with an advisory board working with a program director. UD’s program would be different from other bioengineering programs in the state in that there would not be an overt biomedical emphasis, as the program will not be affiliated with any medical schools, as well as the fact that the two likely concentrations are not offered elsewhere. The nonthesis option would also be unique to the program. The proposal was assigned to the Academic Policy Committee for review.

2. Committee on committees. The Provost announced that responsibility for this committee will now reside with ECAS. The Provost’s office can provide support, but ECAS needs to take ownership of the process. It was suggested that a “master” of the committee on committees be appointed, perhaps the Vice President of the Academic Senate.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, January 12, 2009 at 1:00 pm in St. Mary’s 113B.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Heidi Gauder