2009-01-26 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate  
January 26, 2009  
St. Mary’s 113 B; 1:00 PM

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

Absent: R. Kearns, A. Reichle

Guest:  J. Farrelly (Faculty Board)

Opening Prayer: Dave Darrow opened the meeting with a prayer.

Roll Call: Ten of twelve members of the committee were present.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of January 12, 2009 were approved as written.

Announcements:
1. A Campus Climate survey will be conducted in March. Take the time to respond.
2. Interviews of candidates for Provost will be conducted in February. Try to attend one of the open meetings.

Committee Reports:
Student Academic Policy Committee
- a. A committee to develop a new student evaluation of instructions form will be established. It includes three undergraduate students, one graduate student, two faculty from SAPC, two faculty from FAC, and one member from LTC.

Faculty Affairs Committee:
- a. The revised Maternity Leave Policy passed in the Senate meeting of 1-23-09. It will be submitted to Joyce Carter, who will bring it to the President’s Council.
- b. The FAC is working on the “Stop-the-Clock” policy. It was asked if the “Stop-the-Clock” policy could be used for other reasons than tenure. Response: Yes, e.g. political office. Also it was agreed by the FAC that the “Stop-the-Clock” policy allows for the faculty member to continue work on any item that could be used for tenure, such as publication.
- c. The Intellectual Properties policy will be discussed at the next FAC meeting.

Academic Policies Committee:
- a. The APC is reviewing common concerns associated with the Common Academic Program as expressed in the over 200 pages of comments received so far. They are still expecting a formal reply from the schools of Business Administration, and Education and the Allied Professions.

New Business:
- a. The MS in Bioengineering has been designated as DOC 08-03, and assigned to the Academic Policies Committee.
- b. The once-called “Committee-on-Committees” needs to be reformed. Its purpose is to recruit faculty to serve on university committees and oversee the nominations of individuals to committees. It was pointed out that a great deal of work is needed to make this committee functional. It was suggested that a web site be set up that shows all members and chairs of each university committee and what issues that committee is responsible for. There was some confusion as to the complete function of this committee, so members of the ECAS will form a separate committee to determine the purpose of the “Committee on Committees.” A spread sheet of all university committees and some background information will be emailed to the ECAS members. They are to review it from the standpoint of which committees ECAS (and therefore the reformed “Committee on Committees) should be responsible for. Be ready for discussion at the next ECAS meeting.
c. There was some discussion about having documents that are brought before the Senate be first reviewed by departments. Departments need to have input to policies that will impact them. It was mentioned that documents are placed on the Senate web page before meetings, but that is not enough time for departments to respond. It was thought that perhaps the best avenue for communication would be for deans to invite senators from ECAS to speak at the academic unit meetings.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, February 2, 2009 at 1:00 pm in St. Mary’s 113 B;

Respectfully Submitted By:

George R. Doyle, Jr.

Secretary of the Senate