2009-08-31 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Present: P. Benson, D. Biers, T. Buckley, D. Darrow, B. Duncan, H. Gauder, R. Kearns, L. Laubach, A. Mari, J. Saliba, A. Seielstad, R. Wells

Guests: D. Bickford (Associate Provost) and J. Farrelly (Faculty Board)

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the August 17, 2009 meeting were amended and approved.

Announcements: A. Mari reported that the Student Government Association elections will be conducted on August 31 and September 1, 2009 with the intent of selecting two new SGA senators.

Old Business:
1. T. Corporale and B. Krakowski have agreed to serve on the General Education committee.
2. CAP: The “Work Plan for the Development of the Common Academic Program” has been posted on the Academic Senate Home Page as a QuickPlace Senate Document. Faculty have received letters of invitation to serve on the various CAP working groups. ECAS suggests that additional faculty members to the various working groups be solicited by volunteers. A motion to “accept the working group members and charges to the committees” was made by R. Wells and seconded by P. Benson. The vote was nine YES with two abstentions. ECAS recommends to Pat Donnelly’s group that they discuss the CAP proposal with Pat Palermo and his original working group. There was considerable discussion concerning how the General Education Committee list was generated. Proposals to incorporate faculty volunteers or student representation into the working groups at this stage in the process were not approved. However, all working groups are expressly charged to engage in meaningful consultation with those constituents as they prepare their assigned tasks.
3. Bulletin: ECAS discussed whether the APC should be asked to create a new advising bulletin (hard copy). A lengthy discussion centered around the newly created electronic bulletin versus the development of a printed bulletin. The question was raised as to whether a hard copy bulletin is necessary. ECAS asks the APC to: (a) to determine the possibility of modifying the architecture of the online bulletin to make it more user friendly; (b) determine whether or not faculty want to see a return of some form of the bulletin in hard copy; and (c) craft a formal request to the Office of the Provost asking it to change the existing architecture of the on-line Bulletin and/or issue a hard copy of the Bulletin in some form if it determines this to be an appropriate form of action.

New Business:
1. Associate Provost Deb Bickford presented materials concerning the search for a new Director of the University Honors Program. Dr. Tricia Hart has served in this position for the past four and one-half years and has decided to return to the SOEAP Teacher Education faculty as of June 30, 2010. An internal search for the new director will begin with the development of a search committee by around October 1, 2009.
2. The strategic faculty early buyout proposal submitted to ECAS by Dr. James Biddle was tabled and will be discussed at the September 14, 2009 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

The next ECAS meeting is scheduled for Monday 14 September 2009, 11:00 a.m. in St. Mary’s Rm 113B.

Respectively submitted by: Lloyd Laubach