9-23-2013

Student Academic Policies Committee Minutes of the Academic Senate 2013-09-23

University of Dayton. Student Academic Policies Committee

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Student Academic Policies Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
23 September 2013

Members Present: Joe Mashburn, Myrna Gabbe, Terence Lau, Vinod Jain, Laura Leming, Andy Kurzals, John McCombe, Tom Skill

Guests: Jesse Grewal (Student Member, SET Committee), Linda Hartley (Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee)

The SAPC invited the Chair of the Faculty Affairs Sub-Committee, Linda Hartley, to discuss the proposed revision to the Student Evaluation of Teaching instrument. The recommendations of the Student Evaluation of Teaching (SET) Committee will be discussed by the full Academic Senate on Friday, September 27.

Dr. Hartley began the meeting with a brief overview of the history of University-wide conversations about revising the SET instrument. During this presentation, it was obvious that in additions to conversations about the SET instrument—currently 8 questions (scaled 1 to 5) with an opportunity to provide discursive comments for each one—there are also related conversations about how to administer the evaluation form. Additionally, there are also distinct, albeit related, questions about how to interpret the data obtained by the instrument.

Dr. Lau, who also serves on ECAS, reminded the group that there is not yet an actual document on the table for a Senate vote. This means that, during Friday’s Senate meeting, there will simply be a conversation about the SET Committee Recommendations, as well as a discussion of how the Senate might proceed from here (e.g., accept or reject the SET Committee recommendations, etc.).

During today’s conversation, several important questions were raised, among them 1) the role of students in the process of developing the proposed instrument; 2) issues related to online administration and response rate; and 3) the gathering of data and its application in a formative and/or summative manner.

Such comments and questions will no doubt continue to be raised during the full Senate meeting, but today’s SAPC meeting was an opportunity for everyone to learn more about this important and on-going process.

Next Meeting: 7 October 2013 (9:00 a.m. in HM 257) – The next SAPC meeting is scheduled for two weeks from today, and the only agenda item will be a resumption of our on-going conversation about the Student Code of Conduct and its language concerning “Student-Run
Businesses/Commercial Activity.” As a group, the SAPC will need to decide if a proposal should be drafted and presented to the Senate for revising this policy in some way.

Respectfully Submitted,

John McCombe