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2013-10-15 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved
Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
October 15, 2013
KU 312, 8:15-9:30 AM

Present: Phil Anloague, Paul Benson, Harry Gerla, Emily Hicks, Carissa Krane, Terence Lau, Ed Mykytka, Carolyn Roecker Phelps, Joseph Saliba, Dominic Sanfilippo

Absent: Abdullah Alghafis, Linda Hartley

Guests: Jim Farrelly

Opening prayer/meditation: P. Anloague opened the meeting with a prayer.

Minutes: The minutes of the October 8, 2013 ECAS meeting were approved as corrected with one abstention.

Announcements:

- Next meeting—October 22, 2013, 8:15-9:30 KU 312
- C. Phelps announced that a task force with representation from Legal Affairs, Student Development, and the School of Business Administration will be formed to discuss the current university policy on student-run businesses. If the task force determines that changes need to be made, the issue will come back to the Academic Senate. T. Lau stated that he has a meeting with Dean Bobrowski tomorrow.
- J. Farrelly announced that 31 people have signed up for the lunchtime SET discussion on October 22, 2013.
- C. Phelps announced that Sawyer Hunley, Juan Santamarina, and Jim Dunne would attend ECAS next week to discuss CAP.

Reports

None of the committees had anything to report.

Old Business:

Consultation. C. Phelps briefly reviewed the minutes of the September 17, 2013 ECAS meeting about improving consultation between the faculty and the administration. Appropriate next steps need to be determined. J. Farrelly reiterated his previous suggestion that some concepts from the document created by the small group be incorporated into the Senate's policies and procedures document. H. Gerla stated that current practices need to be regularized. He asked two questions. How do we get Senate members to express their views? How do we know what and when to express our views?

C. Krane stated that for consultation to be effective, members need information and materials to review prior to a meeting. This would enable them to be prepared to give feedback. The discussion centered primarily on the upcoming ELC meeting. The general feeling was that enough materials should be provided to give the participants a framework or context for contributing to the conversation. If specific questions are to be considered, then they should be provided prior to the meeting. When participants know what is expected of them, they can come prepared to contribute.

C. Krane commented that the way in which consultation is approached at the university is currently not optimal. She asked if there was a mechanism in place for ECAS to meet over the summer saying that effective communication cannot be 9 months. She proposed that a small stipend be provided to faculty for their participation. She said the cost to the university is in morale, citing how the recent health care changes were communicated. T. Lau agreed that the health care issue was a good case study for the lack of consultation. Attempts to include faculty/staff consultation about important changes in health care have failed, leaving a groundswell of resistance, particularly among faculty. C. Phelps mentioned SET as another case study. Numerous attempts over 18 months to solicit faculty consultation have resulted in very few responses. J. Farrelly stated that the old ELC was included in the summer leadership retreat. E. Hicks stated that some people are on campus over the summer.

J. Farrelly stated that with the health care costs there was an element of emergency because of multi-million dollar increases for the self-insured university. Joyce Carter has stated in multiple presentations that the decisions had to be made quickly over the summer. E. Hicks questioned why conversations about specific cost-containment options had not been discussed at the Human Resources Advisory Council over the last year or years. The new health care law was passed several years ago and the university was aware of many of the changes. Going forward, conversations with faculty and staff representatives about health care options could be started by January in order to be prepared for decisions to be made in the summer.

P. Benson stated that the issue was a structural one. The President of the Academic Senate is involved over the summer. The Senate could have a small group of faculty available for meetings over the summer. There would be limits since the full Senate would not be available. T. Lau said that it would not solve the underlying problem. C. Krane stated that it would help by eliminating one excuse for no faculty consultation over the summer. J. Saliba stated that the Office of the Provost would support having ECAS or other group meet over the summer. He suggested that the changes in the Senate election process may have hurt consultation and encouraged ECAS to reconsider the elections calendar.

New Business:

Question from SBA. C. Phelps provided the text of an email from Elizabeth Gustafson concerning the application of the university academic dishonesty policy. Currently SBA is dismissing students after a second incident report. All dismissals thus far have occurred at the end of a semester. However, if a second report occurs in the middle of a semester, should the student be dismissed from the university immediately or at the end of the semester? Does the university need a policy standardizing how units across campus handle cases of academic dishonesty? T. Lau explained that 6 students have been dismissed since the implementation of the new reporting form approved by the Academic Senate last year. P. Benson stated that the College does not dismiss in the middle of a semester. He said that the APC had discussed mandatory university-wide penalties for plagiarism in the past and that there would probably be push back from units and faculty because of the desire for flexibility and discretion. T. Lau asked how the academic dishonesty policy could be applied equitably across campus. It was suggested that each unit document their practices so other units know how these situations are handled in other units. Students take many classes outside of their major or home unit and incidents are handled within the unit where the class in question is taught. It was decided that the issue of consistency would be discussed among the Deans and their staffs first to determine what, if any action, is needed. J. Saliba stated that while other universities vary widely in how they deal with academic dishonesty, the most common actions are a grade of F in the class and no mid-semester dismissals. He will place the issue on the agenda of either a Provost's Council or Dean's Council meeting in the near future. The necessity of

discretion was reiterated by several members. A wide range of activities are considered under the umbrella of academic dishonesty and a range of punishments may be appropriate.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by Emily Hicks

Work in Progress

Task	Source	Previously assigned	To	Work due	Due
Consultation	ECAS	ECAS	ECAS	Open communication	ongoing
Department Processes	ECAS		APC	Proposal	
Honors distinction on transcripts	ECAS		APC	Proposal	
Intellectual properties			FAC		
Instructional staff titles	Provost's office		FAC		
Information Literacy			APC		
Academic dishonesty	SAPC				
Change in Constitution	ECAS				
SET	ECAS		APC	Proposal	
SET	ECAS		FAC	Proposal	
Tasks ongoing					
SET Committee oversight	ECAS		ECAS	Hear monthly reports; Linda Hartley, chair	
CAP Competency Committee oversight	Senate		APC	Hear monthly reports	
UNRC			ECAS	Hear monthly reports; Emily Hicks, chair	
Summer tuition	Faculty		SAPC	On hold until tuition model is further developed	