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2020-01-10 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
January 10, 2020
8:45 am – 10:30 am, SM 113B

Present: Joanna Abdallah, Paul Benson, Anne Crecelius, Shannon Driskell, Deo Eustace, Mark Jacobs, Denise James, Leslie Picca, Fran Rice, Andrea Seielstad

Absent: Jake Jagels, Jason Pierce

Guests: Janet Bednarek (Faculty Board representative)

Eric Spina (President)

Andy Horner (Executive Vice President of Business and Administrative Services)

Carolyn Roecker Phelps (Associate Provost for Faculty and Administrative Affairs)

Opening

- Opening prayer/meditation – Mark Jacobs (meditation/prayer)
- Approval of minutes from 12/13/19 ECAS meeting—approved

Announcements

- Prayer sign-up sheet for spring
- Welcome to Denise James (Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program) to ECAS. She is replacing Sam Dorf who is on sabbatical this semester.

New Business

- Eric Spina, Andy Horner, and Paul Benson presented a proposal for the creation of a new budget alignment steering committee, and four working groups: the university revenue opportunity working group, the all-university marketing & communications future working group, the graduate academic program centrality and demand working group, and the university benefits working group. The draft proposal included charges and scopes for the steering committee and the four working groups. The draft also included proposed memberships and timeframes for their work. The proposal for the creation of a university budget alignment steering committee is to help address the need for greater transparency and broader input from the university, especially from the faculty, as the university begins to critically look at its expenses and assess some deeper structural reductions.
 - Question: how will members be selected? – Because of time constraints, ECAS has been tasked to identify potential faculty and administrator candidates.
 - Question: New revenue opportunities will also result in more spending-what will be the ROI and how can these new opportunities be funded? –The university revenue opportunity working group will address this as part of their charge.
 - Comment: As we look at programs we need to ensure they are aligned with the interests and needs of our audience.
 - Comment: We need more savvy communications, more conversations, more transparency.
 - Comment/Question: Can grant seeking groups be expanded to include all units across campus?
 - Comment: The educational piece around the university's finances is essential. We need to look at new models to help accomplish goals of diversity and sustainability. We want to keep what makes UD the UD.
 - Comment: We need to have a voice in budget making decisions, and this is a great response.

- PProPT work product- The final report and recommendations were presented by co-chair Janet Bednarek. The report included proposed revisions to the University P&T document and proposed revisions to the policy for the evaluation of teaching. Two new policies were also proposed, the policy on the evaluation of service and the policy for the evaluation of research. Comment—these new policies must be inclusive to include all types of faculty. Question—can this report be shared with colleagues before the next Academic Senate meeting? Yes, the more feedback received the better.

The remainder of the meeting focused on developing a pool of faculty and administrative names to serve on the new budget alignment steering committee and four working groups. Proposed names are in ECAS folder.

Old Business

- Senate composition discussion-to be carried over to a future ECAS meeting.

Adjourned: 11:08

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice