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2020-01-24 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Approved Minutes
Executive Committee of the Academic Senate
January 24, 2020
9:00 am – 10:30 am, SM 113B

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

Guests: Janet Bednarek (Faculty Board representative)

Opening

- Opening prayer/meditation – Shannon Driskell (prayer)
- Approval of minutes from 01/17/20 ECAS meeting—approved no revisions

Announcements

- Thanks for good participation on interviews

New Business

- Noah Leibold and Brad Hoefflin have resigned from SGA and as such a replacement needs to be made for them. SGA suggests
 - Patrick Cool for Business—for SGA
 - Michael Davies for Engineering—for Noah
 - James Brill has replaced Noah as Director of Academic Affairs (SGA)

James Brill, Director of Academic Affairs (SGA) is the new undergraduate student representative on ECAS. No change to student representatives on FAC, APC, SAPC.

- Report from HRAC rep – Fran. Maci Rutledge gave an overview of available Faculty/Staff wellness programming. Programs include lunch and learns, low cost fitness classes, discounted RecPlex membership, health fairs, health screenings, smoking cessation classes, flu shots, and health challenges. On the 3,110 eligible employees, 45% (1404) participated, and 988 flu vaccinations were given (31% participation). Self-reported health risk assessment and biometric reports indicate lower smoking rate, better exercise habits, and better nutrition dietary habits than national averages. Preventive screenings for mammograms, prostate exams and colonoscopies showed 76% screened annually for mammograms, 59% for prostate exams and 80% reported having a colonoscopy after age 50 falling in line with the American cancer society recommendations. 52% of employees taking the risk assessment reported they sometimes experience stress or anxiety while 34% reported stress has not affected their health much at all. Future discussion topics – revising the telecommuting policy, establishing a paid paternity leave policy, establishing a paid caregiver leave policy, establishing a flexible work schedule policy. Question: What is the timeframe for the future discussion topics? Answer: No timeframe was provided.
- Substitute for Mary Ellen for senate meetings in Jan & Feb? –Recommend Mary Ellen reach out to someone with the information she wants shared and ask them to be at the meetings for an opportunity to voice comments.

Old Business

- Letter to faculty regarding changes to handbook—Members shared comments they have received from their constituents. So far, most comments focused on SET, how SET averages are being calculated, and concerns that SET might be the only mechanism used to evaluate teaching. Multiple suggestions were offered on how to collect future comments. It was suggested senators could meet

with departments in their represented areas to gather comments. These comments would be collected into a white paper, which could be given to a subgroup to digest and incorporate all the thoughts into one document. A charge and the compiled document would be sent to FAC. The structure to collect feedback will be discussed at next week's ECAS. It was also suggested to schedule an open forum in mid-February.

A. Crecelius presented a consideration for ECAS—why doesn't the university have a university level guidance on attendance. e.g. if you miss three classes you need to drop the course. It was suggested to look at *DOC 2010-03 Attendance Policy* and the catalog for clarification.

- Senate composition discussion— continued to next meeting.

Adjourned: 10:25 am

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice