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2020-06-05 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

University of Dayton. Academic Senate. Executive Committee

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Present: Joanna Abdallah, Paul Benson, Connie Bowman, James Brill, Sam Dorf, Mark Jacobs, Carissa Krane, Leslie Picca, Jason Pierce, Fran Rice, Andrea Seielstad,

Guests: Janet Bednarek (Faculty Board representative), Anne Crecelius, Shannon Driskell, Denise James, Sean Falkowski, Carolyn Phelps

Excused: Deo Eustace

Opening
- Opening prayer / meditation- Leslie
- Approval of minutes from 5/29/2020 ECAS meeting minutes approved.

Announcements
- Next ECAS meeting Friday, June 12, 10am – 11:30am
- Prayer/Reflection sign up: **https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Fr65V-Pgqk1WSH0NmtDJYnfzIx3bh-fVnKI0zTPjtBM/edit**

New Business
- Approve Agenda for Special Academic Senate Meeting June 12. Start time of 3:30 pm was confirmed, Sam Dorf agreed to offer the prayer/reflection. Agenda was approved.
- Discussion with Assoc. Provost Carolyn Phelps to discuss Senate legislative authority, policies, and anticipating needs in 2020-21.
  - o Policies relating to faculty reviews; e.g. use of S.E.T., the tenure clock, and P&T reviews, were suggested as the policies needing review. There will be a working group looking at these issues, and there might be changes needed this year. It is anticipated other policies, like student academic policies, attendance policies, etc. will remain without any modifications.
  - o from chat: In CAS, we will have to work out how to distribute materials to the T&P committee. There are a series of procedures that require signatures, the storage of files, and other privacy concerns. Google drive would not be sufficient. Other universities use more secure methods. We need to look into that.
  - o from chat: I know that Carolyn has had discussions with deans' offices and UDit over the past year about more secure digital containers for managing these materials. Our new data storage system, Box, may be a solution, although it has not been fully implemented yet. We've also looked into things specific for reviews, like Interfolio. In the past we were needing to finish a contract with Digital Measures.
  - o from chat: That's so important. I am frequently concerned with how people are sharing confidential information via email and by forwards.
  - o Question: How will workload be impacted if there are two sections offered of the same class, online and in person? Response: Resources will be provided on how to teach online, face to face, and with flipped classrooms. We will need to think about how to shift course design. Classroom capacity will limit class size, there will need to be a significant backbone of the class

online. We will not be teaching the same class in two delivery platforms, we need to investigate what are the best models to reflect this flexibility.

- from chat: People may have seen this opinion piece that brings up some of the issue of workload https://www.insidehighered.com/digital-learning/views/2020/06/03/envisioning-day-life-faculty-member-campus-fall-opinion

- Question: Will there be an option to use scheduled class time for office hours if a class is fully online? Who will decide what classes will be fully online and when will students be told? Response: We're still reviewing room capacities. There needs to be a student engagement piece included in online classes.

- from chat: The in-person class time will have to be very engaging, especially if there is less face-to-face time than a typical semester. Many students would expect the face-to-face time to be more engaging and more purposeful than the "normal" office hours.

- While planning for fall classes, keep in mind flexibility, what do I want students to know and how is the best way to deliver the information.

- from chat: Room capacity information is of nominal value when we don't know what faculty will be back to deliver courses.

- Comment: It is difficult to be flexible when you don't know the delivery of your class. You need to tell people how they will be teaching in the fall. Response: There are many factors involved in making this decision, the % of faculty that will not be returning to campus, classroom capacity, etc. We are reluctant to tell faculty how they will teach in the fall.

- from chat: Do students realize they'll be in masks and 6 ft apart? That changes engagement. We all need to realize that the "typical" class we're used to won't happen, i.e. small groups are difficult. Voices have to be raised because of masks and distance.

- from chat: Mark's assessment of the requirement of all courses to be accessible to students who might be quarantined is the interpretation my department has made. Paul, your indication that that is NOT the expectation is not the general understanding. It is also not clear that students will be expected to change their schedules if they cannot attend in the way courses are delivered. Student schedule changes have not been discussed. Rather, instructor accommodations have been. Maybe this means there needs to be some additional clarification.

- The synchronous component needs to be during scheduled class time. Students need to know this information.

- Comment: We are policing the online enforcement. We need to have level of trust. Are we allowing faculty to make decisions that are in their best interest, or are decisions about delivery being made on department level. What does student engagement look like with social distancing?

- from chat: I'm assuming that we are preparing training materials for students about learning in these times. Not just that classes will be online or different, but how to thrive in those settings.

- Narrow & Approve UNRC pools: The list of candidates was reviewed and a pool of names for each working group was sent to Carolyn Phelps.
  (1) Path Forward Academics Working Group – Graduate studies team
  (2) Path Forward Academics Working Group – Testing and assessment of learning team
  (3) Path Forward Academics Working Group – Experiential learning team

(4) Path Forward Academics Working Group – Faculty Review Processes
(5) Path Forward Academics Working Group – Hybrid and online pedagogies

▪ Discussion & potential vote: Request Proposal #1 from Senator M.E. Dillon (Proposal to appoint NTT faculty to 2 standing committees) Due to time limitations, will be held for a future ECAS meeting.

Old Business
▪ Quality Online Learning Report—Discussion (In 2019-20, Approved at APC; presented at ECAS & Senate) Due to time limitations, will be held for a future ECAS meeting.

Adjourned: 11:35 am

Respectfully submitted, Fran Rice