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2003-09-17 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON
DAYTON, OHIO

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

September 17, 2003 – 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in St. Mary's 113B

PRESIDING: Joe Saliba

SENATORS PRESENT: Dandaneau, Eloë, Gauder, Gerla, Hall, Kocoloski, Morman, Pestello, Rapp, Saliba, Yungblut

1. Opening Prayer: J. Saliba opened the meeting with a prayer.
2. Approval of ECAS Minutes for September 3, 2003: The September 3, 2003 minutes were approved as written.
3. Announcements:
 - (a) The first Open Forum for Strategic Planning, chaired by L. Yungblut, will be held on Thursday, September 18 at 3:00 p.m. in KU 207. The next open forum is scheduled for Wednesday, October 22 at 3:00 p.m. in KU 207. The papers written by faculty and students in the spring of 2003 will be addressed again in the Academic Senate.
4. Appointment of a Student to the General Education Competencies Committee: Lucia Villalobos was voted to be the student representative to the General Education Competencies Committee.
5. Adding Classes: The APC has been charged to discuss the issue of the timing concerning students adding classes to their schedules after the term has started. Problems arise when students add a class after the semester begins and they miss the first several sessions of that course. On the other hand, the Math Department needs several classes for the first year students in order to properly place them in the correct classes.
6. Academic Excellence: The ECAS has been asked to look at academic excellence on campus. It has been suggested that a task force made up of faculty be formed to develop academic excellence standards. They will focus on a few deliverables such as pilot programs, some action to remedy where there is a lack of excellence, and identify the issues or problems for the record.
7. Calendar: S. Dandaneau reported that the Calendar Committee continues to focus on the issue of finals week. They are:
 - Composing a set of principals to protect the integrity of finals week which will be sent to all of the committees of the Academic Senate

- Guidelines will be proposed for future calendars
- A series of proposed calendars will be presented for discussion.

It is proposed that everyone, including graduating seniors, will be taking finals at the same time. The concern about students walking at graduation without completing all of the requirements could possibly be addressed by everyone receiving diplomas without the official University of Dayton seal. The seals would be mailed at a later date after the deans' offices have had time to review the students' records.

It is hoped that the committee will have a proposal in place in November to present to the Academic Senate. After that, they will focus on other calendar issues such as reclaiming Friday.

8. ECAS Role on ELC: The role of the ECAS representatives on the ELC was addressed. The faculty on ECAS represent their constituents, the faculty, and they are to present what the faculty thinks are priorities for the budget.
9. Virtual Orientation/Student Portfolio Presentation: T. Skill, D. Wright, and M. Robinson were invited to present an overview of Virtual Orientation. This website started in the College and is now campus-wide. This program allows the first-year students to register for classes, take placement tests and pre-tests, buy text books, find out their room assignments and contact their roommate(s). This program now frees up the time of associate deans, faculty and staff who before spent hours answering the same questions from students on the phone. The Student Portfolio gives the student, after they are on campus, help with curricular and career planning. These programs are personalized for each student. It is hoped that the ECAS will support this initiative.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: J. Rogatto