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2008-10-13 Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

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Minutes of the Executive Committee of the Academic Senate

October 13, 2008

St. Mary's 113 B; 1:00 PM

Present: P. Benson, D. Biers, D. Darrow (presiding), G. Doyle, H. Gauder, J. Greenlee, N. Jolani, R. Kearns, L. Laubach, A. Reichle, J. Saliba

Absent: A. Seielstad

Guest: J. Farrelly (Faculty Board)

Roll Call: Eleven of twelve members of the committee were present.

Prayer: Dave Darrow opened the meeting with a prayer.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of October 6, 2008 were approved as amended.

Announcements:

Dave Darrow will meet with the Board of Trustees on October 17 to give them an update on senate issues.

The week of Oct 20 – 24 will be Graduate Student Week at UD.

Old Business:

The Academic Policies Committee has finalized two dates for open forums to discuss the Common Academic Program -- Tuesday, Oct 28 and Thursday, Oct 30. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday open forums will also be scheduled later.

The Faculty Affairs Committee will be contacting women faculty, who have fallen under the present maternity leave policy, to determine what they see as issues that need to be addressed.

The Student Academic Policies Committee has had some discussions on the students' assessment of instruction. They feel that the present instrument is not adequate, it has little use after promotion/tenure unless students write constructive criticism, and there is a need to clarify the use of the form by faculty and administrators.

There was further discussion by the ECAS.

- a. Seems that students do not take the forms seriously. They do not write enough comments.
- b. Students do not know where the results go or their importance.
- c. Maybe each department/unit should have a different form.
- d. It was pointed out that the assessment should be done at the beginning of a class, after which the instructor covers other material.

New Business:

A tentative agenda for Oct 31, senate meeting was suggested.

- a. Stop-the-Clock policy
- b. Review December 2007 draft of faculty evaluation form.
- c. Presentation on ADD students.
- d. Presentation on medical benefits package.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Monday, October 20, 2008 at 1:00 pm in St. Mary's 113 B;

Respectfully Submitted By:

George R. Doyle, Jr.

Secretary of the Senate