

Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

December 6, 2019

1:00pm–2:30pm

Attendees: Dr. Emily Cutrer, Dr. David Allard, Dr. Drew Morton, Dr. Craig Nakashian, Dr. Ben Neuman, Dr. Abbie Strunc, Dr. Joan Brumm, Dr. Angie Sikorski, Dr. Doug Julien, Dr. Mohamed Morsy

Guest: Dr. Corrine Hinton

Call to order

President’s Report.....Dr. Emily Cutrer

1. Proposal for the legislature that comes from the strategic plan: a center for financial literacy, coming from CBET. It has gone to the system.
2. Requesting the restoration of the 10% cuts of special items from the legislature. In addition to the request for a new building.
3. Wednesday, December 11th, THE CB committee on academic programs is having a meeting where mechanical engineering is up for review; Dr. Cutrer, Dr. Yells, and Dr. Stading will be there to answer questions. It will move forward to the full board on January 23, if approved.
4. Tiered classroom seats will get an update over the Christmas break. Remodel of the first floor UC and labs, the contractors doubled the expense versus the architect’s proposal, which will push the completion date back.

Approval of Minutes (November 1, 2019).....Dr. David Allard

Approved on unanimous vote.

Committee Reports and Business Items

a) Curriculum Committee

1. ENGL 2311 Technical Writing and Communication into the core – Dr. Brumm brought forward the proposed syllabus, that it is full of errors and does not cover the specifics requested by CBET. She says CBET will not encourage their students to take the course. Dr. Sikorski brings to attention that CBET faculty are only focusing on their students, when the course itself is not directed solely to CBET but is a general course in the core curriculum open to both colleges. Dr. Julien – each Faculty member is required to follow the student learning outcomes (SLOs - AGCM), but they have

freedom to determine specifics for their courses and the syllabus will reflect variations between faculty. Dr. Nakashian – Faculty senate does not approve the syllabus, we are voting to approve the course ENGL 2311 to place in the core curriculum. Dr. Hinton – it is important that we maintain the SLOs of this core course, so that it is transferrable. Which is why you do not see specifics in the SLOs because it needs to be transferrable. Faculty need to meet together to discuss the shaping of the course to meet student needs.

Vote on ENGL 2311: Motion to approve – Dr. Morton, Second – Dr. Sikorski; All in favor: Dr. Morton, Dr. Julien, Dr. Neuman, Dr. Strunc, Dr. Sikorski, and Dr. Nakashian. Against: Dr. Morsy, Dr. Brumm, proxy (2) Dr. Chan & Dr. Matthews - 6 for and 4 against.

2. HUMA 2306 Introduction to Ethics into the core - PHIL 1350 – still in the core but it is not supposed to be, it is not offered. Joan wants HUMA 2306 to be PHIL and get Dr. Julien to be certified to teach it. Dr. Julien wants it to be cross-listed HUMA 2306/PHIL 2306. Motion for this Dr. Julien, Dr. Morsy second, all in favor – everyone present voted yes. Proxy – Dr. Matthews and Dr. Chan.
 3. ENGL 2311 as blanket core substitution in spring 2020 in CAO A as an option with ENGL 1302 - Just clarifying because the course is taught in five other places. Ultimately, it can be used as a substitute. Motion to approve Dr. Allard, second Dr. Sikorski. Voted for: Dr. Morton, Dr. Julien, Dr. Neuman, Dr. Strunc, Dr. Sikorski, and Dr. Nakashian. Abstained – Dr. Brumm and Dr. Morsy.
- b) Education Technology – Dr. Kevin Williams attending the CADDY conference as the rep to the system.
 - c) Academic Standards – Dr. Morton said nothing is moving forward. Meetings are not taking place that Dr. Morton is aware of; at least decisions are not being made at this time. Dr. Nakashian asks if Dr. Burzynski gave a sense as to what the role of the academic standards committee is going to be regarding lowering admission standards. Dr. Morton asked Dr. Yells if it would still go through the committee and he said yes.
 - d) Academic Rules and Procedures – Dr. Nakashian - did not meet. Will continue to review workload document. Jim Harbin asked them to look into counting graduate courses as 3 credits. Trying to figure out what happened to it.
 - e) FRED – 2 requests are pending; 1 sent back because it was not an application.
 - f) Faculty Status

- g) Budget Committee – Leira put all of the budget information in an Excel file; work is ongoing to sort through the data.

New Business

- a) Faculty holiday reception.....Dr. Angie Sikorski

Proposes after graduation, December 13, faculty do their own reception: BYOB and side dishes. Dr. Sikorski and Dr. Nakashian are going to the President’s office for approval.

- b) Fall academic calendar.....Dr. Doug Julien

During Thanksgiving week, Wednesday closing the university that afternoon then it affects the faculty and teaching. Why do they just not say it ahead of time? Why not just give them the whole week of Thanksgiving instead of only half a week. Current schedule is significantly less than spring schedule of contact hours. We also do not meet the state statute for contact hours with students. Dr. Sikorski – as a university, we set our own academic calendar. No consistency between fall and spring. Dr. Julien is asking the Rules and Procedures committee to look at the academic calendar again and consider taking Wednesday before Thanksgiving off as a class day. Dr. Morsy suggests taking off the week of Wednesday and then bump start date up a week.

- c) Finals schedule.....Dr. Angie Sikorski

Dr. Sikorski – at the beginning of the semester, there is a clear schedule of finals and to get an email the night before a final that several classes are impacted by a schedule change is problematic. Who is responsible for this and why was it dropped? Dr. Allard is going to take this to the President and VPAA.

Next Meeting: February 7, 2019