Minutes of May 8, 2019
Whirlpool Room, Chan Shun Hall
6:00-8:00 pm
K. Hall, Chair;
K. Bailey, Recording Secretary


Votes & Actions taken (numbers [n] represent items on original agenda)


[4] Committee Reports (K. Bailey)
Undergraduate Council—no report.

Graduate Council (4/3)—Program related actions only.

Faculty Policy & Development Council (1/28)—Received report: Center for Teaching and Learning strategic plan.

Academic Operations Council—No report.

AU UFO Steering Committee—Forty-five faculty are meeting to review AAC&U VALUE rubrics. The goal is to come up with the rubrics for the skills components of the AU UFO. The steering committee will circulate the rubrics and test them out at Faculty Institute.

Race and Justice. No report.

[5] Update on Agriculture Education Center (K. Koudele)
Following the closure of the dairy, the Department of Sustainable Agriculture benchmarked the current curriculum with seven other schools that have similar undergraduate enrollment numbers and an agriculture program in order to identify possible uses for the remaining structures and facilities. All had re-purposed the facilities to be 100% education and reported that student numbers increased. The department also benchmarked curriculum—the AU curriculum is very strong and ahead of the curve.

The former dairy land and facilities will be redeveloped into an Agriculture Education Center along a five-year plan. The center will start with small animals and have sustainable agriculture students work with those animals to gain experience with multiple species. The plan is to bring in animals from around the local area that need help and to build quarantine area so that students get experience working with animals who need help.

The goals of the center are to take education of AU students to the next level, to partner with other departments on campus, to partner with K-12 school in the county and beyond, and to preserve the agricultural legacy of Andrews University.

MOTION: “To SUPPORT the Agriculture Education Center project at Andrews University.” (T. Goodwin). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

[6] UGC Proposal: Curricular Element for BA/BS Degrees (pending UGC approval of minutes)
The Senate received a report on three items voted by the UGC—a 3-credit, upper-level, interdisciplinary signature course requirement for all liberal arts (BA/BS) students, an implementation timeline, and the formation of a committee to guide the process (see text appended to May 8 agenda). The Senate expressed enthusiasm for the idea and made some suggestions about possible skills elements to be included. The Center for Teaching and Learning will be discussing the liberal arts in faculty book club during the coming year.

**MOTION:** “To APPROVE in concept this liberal arts degree requirement.” (T. Goodwin). Seconded, **VOTE PASSED.**

**Senate Discussion & Announcements**

**[1] Worship & Prayer**

Worship (K. Hall) Reviewed campus ministries vision for campus, which is derived from Jesus’ prayer for unity in John 17: Get clear (John 17:3), get close (17:22), get clear (John 17:19). Encouraged faculty to pursue this vision in their own lives in the coming summer term.

**[3] Effective Teaching and Learning Council and Center for Teaching and Learning (A. Coria-Navia)**

The Senate reviewed the year-end report from the Effective Teaching and Learning Council (archived in the Senate Executive Secretary records). Center for Teaching and Learning programming involved 250+ participants (attendance, not individual involved faculty).

**[7] Committee Structures and Academic Reorganization**

All committees that are based on faculty representation from the college-level units at the university will need to review their terms of reference. It might be advisable for all terms of reference to be collected and reviewed in 2019-2020.

**[8] Course Evaluation Process Proposal**

Faculty have raised concerns about the current process for student evaluation of courses. The Effective Teaching and Learning Council will discuss the instrument as well as the process in the fall. The Senate discussed best ways to involve faculty in the process of improving student evaluation of courses.

**Next Faculty Senate meeting:** Fall Semester 2019.