Faculty Senate  2019–2020
MINUTES: September 18, 2019
Buller Hall 149
6:00-8:00 pm
H. Ferguson, Chair; R. Wells, Recording Secretary


Guests: C. Arthur, A. Bosman

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

[2] Minutes of May 8, 2019 Senate Meeting. MOTION: Move to approve minutes as presented (R. Wells). Seconded; VOTE PASSED.

[4] Council/Committee Reports (J. Lim)

Undergraduate Council:
March 4: Residence policy was voted
--BA/BS committee established; credit for prior learning; admissions policy changes
May 6: workload discussion; signature courses; timelines; liberal arts subcommittee
Sept 4 (not voted yet): PDRC representation

Graduate Council:
March 6: all program PDRC recommendations

Faculty Policy and Development Council:
April 1: Tenure Track changes to Working policy (to be dealt with when receive final copy)
--Professional Degrees within Academic Units Reorganization.

Academic Operations Council:
Jan 7: Reports from various areas
Feb 4: Blue Ribbon commissions; student advising and LIFE Center; professional advising
April 1: more advising; ACE discussion

AU Unified Framework of Outcomes Steering Committee:
Nothing to report

Race Relations Standing Committee:
Nothing to report

[5] Review of Shared Governance and Committee Membership Expectations

The provost and the chair reviewed various expectations while serving on committees, for both the chair and members. The chair should set the tone for the meeting, make sure members speak to the issue at hand, and seek to prevent ad hominem attacks. Committee members are to know terms of reference, ensure confidentiality, listen to all perspectives, keep to agenda, focus on actions, and let the chair be chair.

The Senate chair discussed the various University values that came from Faculty Institute survey during the State of the University address. These include: compassion, trust, integrity, humility, well-being, justice, and innovation.

She also reviewed shared governance policies, and the main issues that faculty are called to make decisions about.
There was extensive discussion about the purpose of the values, as well as the individual words chosen. Various senators felt that values such as excellence and honesty were missing. A desire to include the entire campus in this discussion, as well as a systematic process, was voiced.

[6] Faculty Delegates to the General Conference

The Senate chair shared the decision already made, to represent the remaining schools not already sending delegates to GC: H. Ferguson and K. Bailey.

[7] Senate Representative on the Wellness Council

The Wellness Council desires a Senate representative. The executive committee suggested that CWA Oliver Glanz serve as Senate representative for this next year, since he is already a Senator. After one year, this will be reviewed, or when he is no longer a Senator, and then someone else will be elected. Terms of reference were changed to reflect this possibility.

[8] LearningHub Use by Faculty

The Provost/Dean’s Council wants the Senate to decide which things will be required for faculty to use on LearningHub. J. Lim shared that student responses were very positive when asked about whether faculty should post something like syllabi, and use gradebook; and somewhat positive as to whether faculty should make up work for snow days on LearningHub. A faculty survey showed similar responses. Over 60% of classes use LearningHub for something already, when factoring out classes like independent studies, studios, seminars, practicums, and flight training. Also not clear in the data is how cross-listed courses can be counted, and that some teachers close their classes immediately after the semester.

A lively discussion among senators ensued, with many advocating for the need to be able to use alternate systems that somehow link to LearningHub or are directed from it. There were also objections to the mandate from administration on a faculty issue, the problem of online courses, faculty freedom/expertise, as well as the slowness of LearningHub.

Although there was discussion about forming an ad hoc subcommittee to define requirements, senators chose to wait for clear direction from administration before proceeding.

MOTION: “To request exact written words for what is being asked of faculty regarding LearningHub use, before proceeding.” (D. Randall). Seconded, VOTE PASSED.

Senate Discussion & Announcements

[1] Worship & Prayer

Worship (T. Goodwin) Reflection on simplicity and memorable things in worships, like pneumonic devices (e.g., HIPO=honesty, integrity, purity, obedience). LLLL from Stephen Covey stands for live, love, learn, leave a legacy; Luke 10 connects to these same elements: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind”


A game was played, to help all learn and remember various upcoming CTL opportunities and events.

Next Faculty Senate meeting: October 16, 2019.