

Faculty Senate

Wednesday, October 24, 2012

Senators Attending: Blount, Cavitt, Conroy, Feakes, Furney, Hindson, McClellan, Wilson (for first half), Czyzewska, Ash

Guests: Brown, Elmiaari

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1. Call to Order and Announcements
 - a. Adjunct Faculty Committee Meeting
 - i. The committee had its first meeting with both representatives and liaisons.
 - ii. Members of the committee were in favor of the issuance of citations for violations of the Tobacco-Free Campus Policies.
 - iii. The Computer Science Department is looking for a model evaluation policy for non-tenure track and non-tenured faculty. Senators will seek a model in the College of Science to share.
 - iv. The Task Force exploring the teaching award for Adjunct Faculty met and is developing criteria and processes for the proposed award. There is \$5000 to be awarded annually from the Provost's budget. Currently the Task Force is considering weighing both years in service and teaching load.
 - b. Council of Academic Deans
 - i. Latest curriculum proposals were approved.
 - ii. Human Resources (HR) offered an overview of changes in their office: hiring, forms for faculty and what appropriate information should be requested. Sherri Brown is the HR coordinator for faculty.
 - iii. Dr. Mandziuk gave a presentation on the Work Life Balance program, and noted that there are currently seven (7) rooms for nursing mothers on campus.
 - iv. Dr. Thorne gave a demonstration of Etextbooks, which are being used in a number of pilot courses this semester.
 - v. CAD discussed the TRACS site for the Presidential Awards. The College of Fine Arts and Communication requested access to the TRACS site for the awards, for college-level use.
 - vi. The Campus Evacuation Plan for Bomb Threats was distributed to Department Chairs and Deans immediately prior to the Bomb Threat last Thursday. It is unclear if those policies have been shared with faculty.
 2. Old Business:
 - a. Follow-Up from Liaison Meeting
 - i. The Senate considered requesting the Safety Presentation be made to each academic department on a rotating basis.
 - ii. The Senate discussed the lack of clarity regarding the Workload Policy. It seems unclear if these policies are being applied consistently across

departments, but it did appear that most departments now have workload policies in place, in accordance with the new guidelines.

- iii. The Senate discussed its potential role as a central repository for copies of all departmental policies (workload, merit, etc.).

3. Discussion of GNST 3150: Dr. Dann Brown, Dean of University College

- a. Dr. Brown discussed the reasons for creating such a course, citing an increasing number of transfer students who are coming to the University having not declared a major. The result is that these students cannot complete degree programs in a timely manner if they do not enter them until after the junior year.
- b. GNST 3150 was developed based on similar coursework at the University of Florida and other institutions, and would be offered as an elective for transfer students. It cannot be substituted for upper division credits in the major.
- c. The Senate questioned offering the course as an upper-level credit; Dr. Brown responded that most students were transferring as juniors. Also, sophomore level courses would require alignment with 2-year colleges.
- d. The Senate questioned why a student would take the course, if it were not required. Dr. Brown responded that all transfer students will come into the University College advising center, and the course would be suggested for students who have not yet committed to a major.
- e. The Senate inquired as to what sort of population of students would be likely to take the course. Dr. Brown replied that there were approximately 3700 transfer students this year, and approximately 15% of them were assigned to University College since they did not declare a major [approximately 55 students].
- f. The Senate asked who would be the instructor of record for the course. Dr. Brown noted that several Senior Lecturers with terminal degrees might be available to teach the course.
- g. The Senate inquired why we would ask students to pay for a course that would provide services already provided by career counseling. Concerns about how enrollment management in different colleges was also preventing students from declaring a major in a timely manner were discussed.
- h. The Senate voted not to support the recommendation of the University Curriculum Committee for GNST 3150.

4. Development Leave Applications Review

- a. The Faculty Senate met in Executive Session to discuss 20 of the 59 Development Leave applications for 2013-2014.

5. New Business

- a. The minutes from October 10, 2012 were approved.
- b. The minutes from October 17, 2012 were approved.

6. Adjournment