

Faculty Senate
Wednesday, January 23, 2013

Senators present: Czyzewska, Cavitt, McClellan, Wilson, Furney, Feakes, Blunk, Hindson, Sriraman, Ash, Conroy

Guest: Shanmugam (representing The College of Health Professions), Sigler, Tompkins (reporter from the University Star), Heintze, Opheim

1. Information Items

- a. The February 20, 2013, joint meeting with the Council of Deans will begin at 3pm, rather than 4pm.
- b. CAD Jan. 22 meeting report
 - i. Dr. Heintze discussed concerns about the calendar, and how other universities' schedules compare to the Coordinating Board's class meeting days requirement. The Committee proposed a variety of potential solutions for the MWF/TH discrepancy (e.g., adding classes, removing classes, meeting on Labor Day, meeting on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving).
 - ii. There is a new PPS (7.12) addressing faculty who are not native speakers of English, which will require that potential faculty hires who did not complete their undergraduate degrees at a university in which the primary language of instruction was English be assessed for English proficiency. Faculty who are already in service may also be referred for assessment should they receive student complaints and their supervisors think assessment is warranted. Faculty with English language learning needs will be required to attend English instruction. Those who cannot rectify their difficulties with English might be terminated.
- c. The Chair submitted a request to the Student Service Fee Committee for one-time funds, on behalf of the University Lecturers Committee.
- d. Dr. Gregory Snodgrass, Director of the Counseling Center, will meet with the Senate on February 6, 2013 to discuss concerns about the adequacy of mental health services available for students.

2. Dr. Michael Heintze, AVP for Enrollment Management

- a. Dr. Heintze shared information about the Registration and Academic Calendar Coordinating Committee membership, how the history of the committee shaped the Committee memberships, and the meeting schedule for the Committee (typically it convenes at least twice a long semester, once before and once after a registration period).
- b. The Senate requested that additional faculty member seats be added to the Committee and be appointed by the Senate. Dr. Heintze said that he will take this request to the Provost. The Secretary will draft a proposal.
- c. Dr. Heintze suggested that colleges affected by the overlap of Summer Session I with the end of the school year in all surrounding school districts (San Marcos, Hays, Dripping Springs, Austin) resolve problems by

- employing alternative summer scheduling
 - d. Enrollment numbers for the Spring semester suggest that retention efforts are being effective.
- 3. Old Business
 - a. Review of Joint CAD/COC/FS Meeting minutes
 - b. Committee Membership Appointments
 - i. A College of Health Professions Interim Senator is still needed.
 - ii. A Health Professions representative for the Graduate Dean Search Committee is still needed. This was referred to the Associate Provost.
 - iii. The discussion of recommendations for the Registration and Academic Calendar Coordinating Committee faculty representative was returned to the agenda.
 - iv. Completed: Equity and Access Committee, Distinguished Professor Award Committee, Diversity Awards Nomination Committee.
- 4. PAAG Agenda Development, continued
 - a. The Senate continued a discussion about the Associated Student Government's suggestion to move HB 2504 evaluations online. A statement on the Senate's stand on the issue will be drafted for the PAAG agenda.
- 5. Cynthia Opheim, Associate Provost
 - a. Dr. Opheim will follow-up on appointing a representative from the College of Health Professions to the Graduate Dean Search Committee. Senate members are invited to attend lunch meetings with the candidates, which will be scheduled in JCM 880.
 - b. The development of PPS 7.12 is due to a statutory requirement to provide support for faculty who exhibit difficulties with the English Language. This new PPS is a complete revision and simplification of a previous policy. Questions were raised about how reactions to a faculty member's English will (or will not) be documented in a personnel file, and specifics about the potential for dismissal of a tenured faculty member for non-compliance or failure to successfully complete proficiency training..
 - c. The Associate Provost will send the revised versions of PPS 4.01 and PPS 7.12 to the Chair, and will contact the primary reviewer of PPS 7.09 for clarification on the request that it be deleted.
 - d. The Associate Provost will undertake a key word search of all Policy and Procedure Statements for the terms "faculty voter" and "Personnel Committee member." PPS 8.09 and 8.10 have already been updated with pen and ink changes to reflect updated faculty voter and Personnel Committee member definitions.
 - e. The Associate Provost will share with the Provost, the Council of Chairs, and AVPIE Dr. Beth Wuest the Senate's proposal that, for Academic Program Reviews, departments compose a short list of faculty members from outside the department to participate in the review as internal reviewers, from which the Provost would make the appointment. The Senate recommends that serving as internal reviewer be recognized as important service, but not be monetarily compensated.

6. New Business

- a. The Senate reviewed the proposed changes to PPS 4.02 Conduct of Classes.
- b. Implementation of the Service Task Force findings into department policies was tabled until after the recommendations are incorporated into university policies.
- c. The minutes of the January 16, 2013 meeting were approved.