AY 06-07 Meeting 2007-01-12

Faculty Senate

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Governors State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes, January 12, 2007

Senators (Present = X):

- E. Alozie
- M. Kasik
- L. Proudfit
- P. Blobaum
- T. Kelly
- W. Rudloff
- M. Clark
- J. Klomes
- A. Sanders
- D. Chung
- J. Lingamneni
- J. Simon
- D. Diers
- G. Lyon
- C. Tymkow
- E. Essex
- Z. Malik
- B. Wilson
- B. Hansen-Shaw
- C. Mietlicki
- B. Winicki
- H. Heino
- R. Muhammad
- J. Zhao

Guests: Chris Easley, Dor Fitzgerald, Paul R. Keys, Joe Matula, Rebecca Wojcik, Rosemary Hulett, Linda Bayer, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Lisa Hendrickson

There was a quorum for this meeting, which began at 1:05 P.M.

Approval of Minutes

Due to a communication failure, minutes from December were not provided for this meeting. They will be provided for the February meeting.

Provost Report

Provost Keys introduced Chris Easley who made a presentation about accreditation of the graduate studies programs and the Higher Learning Commission, which is probably happening soon. Handouts were provided. She talked about accountability, stringent requirements, and federal mandates; IBHE's challenges to us about workforces readiness, interdisciplinary core competency, measurement, and changing our culture. The self-study process begins prior to accrediting review, and we need to begin thinking now about what we need to do differently to meet these challenges. We now have a doctoral degree in health professions and a terminal degree in MFA. Easley made several recommendations:

1) a symposium, in which the first day was a learning experience, the second day was a reflection on that learning, and the 3rd day for breakout sessions to design and implement university-wide changes;
2) a retreat that would incorporate UCC, APRC, Graduate Council, the Assessment Committee, the Faculty Senate to begin a discussion on how to implement some of the outlined changes.
2. Provost Keyes then went on to speak of the joint faculty Senate and administrations' "working group" of several years ago. He reiterated the importance of the need for a "culture change" in that the decisions we have been making have not been based on "real data." Now that we have access to such data, thanks to Linda Beyer and her staff, we can start to make program decisions based on actual data. The Higher Learning Commission wants university-wide commitment to move forward in accreditation in graduate programs in preparation for their return visit in 2008-9; therefore we need to start now at all levels—from Civil Service to Senate to students—collecting, aggregating, and interpreting data. Senators asked Provost Keyes to help us understand what was meant by a "culture change." He explained with several examples: What does a doctoral syllabus look like? How does it differ from a Masters syllabus? An undergraduate syllabus? How are the courses different? How are the students different? How are the expectations different? These are the kinds of things we need to start thinking about. If we set our own goals and standards, rather than looking to an accrediting body to do it for us, or an employer/stakeholder to tell us what he/she is looking for as to their expectations, then we are in the designer position of our program. Chris explained that she is hoping for the symposium in February. She would like from the Senate an endorsement for a broad-based call, and then to get a planning group together. Her request was answered by a move that was seconded and approved unanimously.

Rosemary Hulett made a presentation that requested the Senate's endorsement of her campaign for financial support, especially for unrestricted dollars. The campaign starts February 1, 2007. She explained that her office is more concerned with participation percentages than actual dollar amounts. Her goal for this year is 25% participation. Faculty support is very visible when she asks for help from external contributors. This is the 3rd year of the program. "Friends of the Library" is part of her campaign. Her request for support from the Senate was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously.

Linda Beyer made a presentation to the Senate about the Alumni Data Task Force that she is spearheading. The committee that has been created has broad-based representation. They will be holding a series of open meetings. Beyer asked for assistance from Senate:

1. The university needs a calendar when surveys are going out from other parts of the university. Her office can create a "master calendar."
2. Her office needs to know exactly what are our data needs from alumni. what questions we ask, what we need to find out.

The committee's charge is to make recommendations about how to get more representation information that has more usefulness. The Senate made the following requests of Linda:

1. Hold 6 meetings. Talk to people in each unit, people who are involved with accreditation and contact alumni to attend one of these meetings.
WebCT  Pete Mizera met with Executive Committee and apologized about the loss of service when the university server went down the weekend just before grades were due, W 06. There was some discussion about possible alternatives, including the less-than-user-friendly use of an answering machine on the Help Desk.

Jeff Kaiser is retiring. Ginger (Georgia) Kosmolski volunteered to serve in his place on the university personnel committee until the end of the semester. Her requested was moved, seconded and approved by vote.

Jeannine Klomes requested cardboard names boards for senators and guests. I will attempt to have them ready for next Senate session.

Reports

Educational Policies Committee (Tymkow)
Three revisions to policies have been approved: 33, 34, and 7. They have been forwarded to Senate Executive Committee for the next step in the review process.

University Curriculum Committee (Muhammad)
Did not meet last month. No report

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) (Winicki)
Three proposals that were reviewed for doctoral-level programs (DrOT, Counselor Education, Ph.D., and Doctorate of Nursing Practice, DNP) were sent back to Provost’s office with extensive comments and questions. For new certifications in programs, Alt Cert has been approved and Alt. School Counseling, Natural History of Birds, Information Security, ETE, BTE, CTE have all be sent back to their programs and APRC is awaiting responses to its questions and comments. Proposals for the elimination of the minor in Public Administration and the concentration in Public Administration have been reviewed and sent back to the program with questions. So far the program has neglected to responded to these questions and concerns.

Bargaining Unit (Katz)
No report

IBHE FAC (Wojcik)
Presented a report of the IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee Meetings from 11/17/06 and 1/5/07. See her for more detailed information.

Executive Committee (Lyon)
Lyon told Senate about Mizera's apology and explanation to Executive Committee about the "crash" of WebCT and loss of service from Saturday night
until Monday morning that fateful week right at the end of the fall, 2006, semester.

**Old Business**
None

**New Business**
Dor Fitzgerald (Guest) talked to the Senate about Cohorts at the Kankakee Education Center and Leadership Series Workshops.

Linda Ber (guest) gave a presentation about her charge to collect data from alumni and requested Senate support. She provided a flyer of upcoming dates and times. Senate was supportive of this initiative.

**Dismissal**
The meeting was dismissed at 2:50 P. M.

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Mietlicki

faculty senate 1/12/07