

Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

The Faculty Council (FC) meeting started at approximately 2:30pm.

Members Present:

Karen Albrecht	Bill Lockhart
Sue Allen	Cynthia Morris
Henry Apperson	Alisa Petree
Jennifer Black	Lisa Lindloff
Cheryl Bohde	Larry Salazar
Cindy Burns	Alexandria Shiu
Kurt Chunn	Mary Sides
Derek Clapp	Bernard Smith
Sondra Dubowsky	Emily Stottlemire
Stacy Fancher	Lise Uhl
Deborah Focarile	Sharon Kenan (for Gail Woodward)
Donna George	
Sue Graham	

Kurt Chunn gave a welcome and started the meeting.

Mandatory fire drill:

Dean Epps stated that a drill will be mandatory this fall and spring. He wanted feedback about which day or time of the semester it should be held. There were suggestions that earlier in the semester would be better, and a Tuesday or Thursday class would be better since Monday and Wednesday classes have one less class day. Dean Epps said that only the faculty should know about this date (not students) and that we all need to be prepared in the event of an emergency. The crisis committee will meet to pick a date.

HB 2504 Committee:

This committee shared the reporting format of the evaluation data in the event we will need to post it. They have met with Paul Illich and Cathy Hagan and confirmed that the committee's recommendations are feasible. Their recommendation:

If/when colleges are required to report faculty evaluation data, the following format will be used for the initial submission. According to Paul Illich and Cathy Hagan, we can report ONLY the total percent positive responses for each instructor for both face-to-face and Internet evaluations. Since the response rate for Internet is so low, by reporting only total percent positive responses, there shouldn't be any concerns between the two.

		Total % Positive Responses	
		Face-to-Face	Internet
Division		%	%
Department			
History	Joe Smith	85.5%	98%
	Janice Curry	88.6%	50%

	Carrie Underwood	92.5%	
Government	Jane Doe	90%	85%

FC approved the committee's recommendation. This will be forwarded onto the VPI.

Elections Committee:

The ballots have been e-mailed out and everyone should vote only once. Voting ends Friday, April 20, and results should be known next week about who will be the VP of the FC for 2012-2013, Minnie Piper-Stevens nominee, and those nominated to serve on the Professional Development Leave Committee.

Quality Matters:

This program has been discussed several times during Faculty Council meetings ever since several faculty members and staff attended a Quality Matters Workshop this past summer. Although no formal proposed recommendation regarding MCC's involvement with Quality Matters has been formulated, FC today did vote "yes" to supporting MCC's further investigation into MCC's involvement with Quality Matters as a possible vehicle for improving instruction in our internet/hybrid courses.

Grade inflation:

There seems to be no issue with faculty grade inflation based on the statistics over the past 10 years. Kurt will look into the possible differences between adjunct and full-time grade distributions during that same time period and send out a report.

Testing Center:

It was decided that talking with the Testing Center needed to start this summer. Derek Clapp, Sondra Dubowsky, and Mary Sides volunteered to be on a faculty committee to meet with the Testing Center director/staff to ensure that students' needs are being met. With the weekend college and more online students, there will be new issues to consider, in addition with meeting existing needs. If anyone has feedback about the Testing Center they can contact Derek Clapp.

These are items that FC recommends next year's FC look into:

- Full-Time Temporary Faculty Policy: Developing a policy regarding full-time temporary faculty (benefits, salary, service expectations, professional development expectations, etc.) that is comprehensive and clear. In addition, how long Full Time Temporary positions would be maintained until they should be converted to "Tenure Eligible" positions due to demonstrated on-going need for a fulltime position.
- Adjunct faculty absence policy: looking into whether or not the current policy regarding adjunct absences should be changed to allow adjunct faculty members, who are absent for professional development purposes, to not be penalized by having to pay for the cost of a substitute in their absence. The goal: to encourage adjunct faculty to also be engaged in professional development without penalty.

- VP of FC to come from “tenured” faculty: The question was brought up whether or not the FC Vice President needs to be tenured. There was some discussion about how this would allow for protection for the individual while representing the faculty, yet it would make a smaller pool of people who would be eligible to serve.

Announcements:

It was determined that there needs to be better dissemination of information if there is a threat on campus. This was discussed during a presentation during the last PD day, and Dr. Epps is working on a plan to provide for better informing the campus should there be a problem with a person on campus who may be posing a threat.

Derek Clapp reminded faculty that the SLO Friday meeting on April 20 will be very important to attend.

The issue of whether we want pluses and minuses in assigning final grades was brought up. Kurt will ask Dr. Balmos about this.

The meeting adjourned.