McLennan Community College
Faculty Council 2013-2014

Meeting: The McLennan Community College Faculty Council met Thursday, November 7, 2013, in MAC 108. The meeting was called to order by President Derek Clapp at 3:00 p.m.

Members in attendance: BRENDA BRADLEY, MIKE CAMPENNI, DEREK CLAPP, CINDY BURNS (SUBBED FOR MARK CRENWEIGE), THERESA BELL SPARKS (SUBBED FOR SONDRA DUBOWSKY), DONNA EWING, ELAINE FAGNER, DAVID FLEURIET, DONNA GEORGE, BECKY PARKER, SUE GRAHAM, DEANNA ROBIONSON (SUBBED FOR DEBORAH HEWITT), SHARON KENAN, LEIGH ANN LONG, WHITNEY LUCE, CATHY PRAUSE, MILEY PULLIAM, JAMIE STANFORD, ANGELA TIBBITT, BRAD TURNER, , PAULA UNGER, AND MARIANNA WHITELY.

Members absent: ASHLEY CRUSETURNER, STACY FANCHER, DEBORAH FOCARILE, JON FOX, LESLIE HENDERSON, SANDY HINTON, JENNA HOEFER, ANDREW HUDSON, SUSAN OLSON, KELLY PARKER, AND BOB YOUNG.

Minutes:

PRESENTATIONS:
1) **Mike Searight Presentation**

   ISSUE: **NEW MCC Web site**

   DISCUSSION: The Faculty Council President (FCP) opened the meeting by introducing Mike Searight, Director of Information Systems & Services. Mike presented the new MCC website, which his department has developed with help of MarCom. The new site is more streamlined, magazine style and also uses Google Analytics; there will be a mobile version developed and implemented soon. According to Mike, the release date for the new website is February 1. He requested that all faculty review the new website and make suggestions and/or corrections (http://dev.mclennan.edu/). Mike requested that faculty take pictures of their classes and research and archive them on the website; the photographs will then be posted on a large canvas on the homepage. In addition, Mike said that very soon Tom Proctor will be conducting student surveys and requested that faculty contact Tom if they have any question that they would like to be included.

   During this preview, FC members noted that there is not a library link on the homepage of the new website.

   Mike also addressed the issue that some videos are being blocked on campus. He encouraged us to let him know about any of these blocks.

   Mike also noted that webmaster Pavel Mizilin is no longer at MCC; he accepted a position with UTA, though he is still working with us as a consultant.

2) **Stas Voskoboinikov Presentation**

ISSUE: **BlackBoard upgrade**

DISCUSSION: The FCP introduced Stas Voskoboinikov, MCC's Blackboard Specialist. Stas presented the new version of Blackboard that will be launched in the 2013 Winter Minimester. He noted that the college has invested in new hardware to support the new version of Blackboard; he said that all of the technology will be load balanced and that the database server will be separate from the Blackboard server. The Winter Minimester launch is intended to allow time for adjustments if any problems occur so that by the Spring 2014 semester, most technical issues will be resolved. The new Blackboard upgrades to Service Pack 15 from Service Pack 5. The major functionality will not change, though Blackboard looks different; it's more streamlined and looks more like the *modern internet*. To view the new Blackboard, go to: bbtest2.mclennan.edu (starting Monday, 11/11/13).

One big Blackboard change is that problem questions on a test that has been launched can be changed and all grades will be adjusted. Stas will be able to run activity reports through several classes. The grading functions are more powerful, as are the content development. The calendar has also been overhauled and can be exported to a smartphone. In addition, student survey can be deployed in multiple classes. The new Blackboard also upgrades the Early Alert System.

An FC member asked when our course shells will be available. Stas said the shells will be available by Monday, 11/11/13, though not much content will be there. Around 11/15/13, Stas will send an email instructing how to move course content; he recommended using import/export function.

Blackboard is developing an attendance function, and it may be launched by March 2014.

The old Blackboard content will be difficult to access, but faculty will be able to get to them.

Stas clarified that our media server is separate from our web server, which is why some media is blocked.

ACTION: Review the new Blackboard at bbtest2.mclennan.edu.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) **ISSUE: Book store: Winter Minimester, BAC**

DISCUSSION: FCP encouraged faculty who are teaching in the 2013 Winter Minimester to check to see if their books are at the Bookstore. The invitation to the Bookstore Open House should be sent very soon.

The FCP & FCVP discovered that 496 sections were missing from the Fall 2013 Bookstore order.

The report was generated 36 hours before the deadline for spring book orders.

The FCP noted that the BAC is a separate book committee from the FC Book Committee.

ACTION: Check the Bookstore for Winter Minimester books and attend the Bookstore Open House.

2) **ISSUE: Research Ethics Committee discussion** (Will know more after meeting with VPI today)

DISCUSSION: Discussion postponed until the next FC Meeting.

An FC member asked if the topic of legal ownership of student ideas has been addressed. Further investigation on this matter was recommended.

ACTION: To be discussed at next FC meeting.

3) **ISSUE: Committee Reports**:

   a. Compensation – MUST MEET THIS MONTH – will set meeting this month.
   b. Elections – Looking at policy revision/clean-up. Especially important is a revision of the Elections policy. An FC member stated that Election policy had been cleaned up by a committee during the last school year, though it is uncertain what has happened since. This member plans to get the changes to the FCP as soon as possible.
   c. Policy/ Personnel - Elections, Adjunct benefits – need to look at other college practices to see what is considered standard.
   d. Bookstore – addressed above

4) **ISSUE**: **Student photos within Web-Advisor – being worked on currently by Andrew Cano**

DISCUSSION: Mike Searight said that a WebAdvisor class roster system which includes student pictures is being developed by Eve Lopez. It was also noted that the potential for students to upload pictures to Blackboard exists, but Stas is reluctant to move in that direction.

ACTION: Look for WebAdvisor class rosters with student pictures.

5) **ISSUE: Adjuncts in directory – DONE on-line version**

DISCUSSION: Project completed.

ACTION: None needed.

6) **ISSUE: Faculty Council vs. Senate – seemingly opposition from faculty**

DISCUSSION: FCP said that he received about 10 emails expressing opposition to the name change. THE FCVP researched the issue and found that about 2/3 of Texas colleges are senates and 1/3 are non-senates.

ACTION: None needed at this time.

7) **ISSUE: Lab Fee Use: Discussed with VPI – complicated system however – a commitment from both VPI and President.**

DISCUSSION: The FCP encouraged faculty who need extra funds for their classes and/or labs to communicate with their division chair and Dr. Balmos; funds will be made available for these extra needs.

ACTION: Contact division chair and VPI about extra materials/supplies needed for classes.

8) **ISSUE: Temp-Full Time towards Tenure … most input was against this for various reasons**

DISCUSSION: The FCP said that this is complex issue that would require careful planning and decision-making. He stated that full-time temporaries are not required to be evaluated every year, and that full-time temporary faculty are credited one to one for years at MCC. The FCVP emphasized that the college is making a concerted effort to hire faculty who are willing to be fully involved on campus.
ACTION: None needed.

9) **ISSUE: Clarification of Tenure Process – Policy Committee issue? – Or do we need a group to work on this alone?**

DISCUSSION: The FCP was surprised to receive an email stating that there seems to be a disconnect between policy and practice with respects to conversion from Tenure-eligible to Tenure-Track. The current process is different from the past process. He will be investigating to find out more and share at a later date.

ACTION: None needed now; more information is needed.

10) **ISSUE: FC Web page** …

DISCUSSION: The FCP stated that we shouldn't update the FC page until the new website is up and running.

ACTION: The FCP will talk with Mike Searight about this.

11) **ISSUE: Proctored Exams**

DISCUSSION: The FCP said that the technology to support online proctored exams will be available soon and will be optional. Departments and/or faculty will determine if proctored exams will be used.

ACTION: None needed right now.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **ISSUE: Spring Evaluations to be all on-line – same software used at major TX universities**
   DISCUSSION: None needed.
   ACTION: None needed.

2. **ISSUE: Audio/Video of class lectures by students**

   DISCUSSION: The FCP stated that the college's policy regarding students recording classes is unclear. The college's legal council needs to be consulted.

   ACTION: More investigation is needed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Paula Unger
Faculty Council Secretary

Abbreviations:
FC = Faculty Council
FCP = Faculty Council President
FCVP = Faculty Council Vice President