

McLennan Community College
Faculty Council 2015-16

MEETING DATE: The McLennan Community College Faculty Council met Thursday, November 12, in the Highlander Room (SSC 319). President Paula Unger called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

ATTENDEES: Amber Bracken, Andi Ramon, Andrew Clayton, Becky Griffin, Brian Johnson, Caleb Stroman, Casey Hubble, Cynthia McAdams, David Davenport, David Fleuriet, Dennis Stapleton, Donna George, Emily Stottlemire, Gail Woodward, Heather Mattingly, Kelly Parker, Mark Crenwelge, Miley Pulliam, Reid Makowsky, Sholly Gunter, Stacy Kuehn

ABSENT MEMBERS: Frances Turner, Jan Robertson, Jim McKeown, Jon Fox, Karen Svendsen Werner, Karen Weil, Laura Hays, Marc Nicholas, Mark Long, Mary Sides, Meredith Heffner, Sharon Allen, Shelly Rogers-Sharer, Sondra Dubowsky, Susan Spooner, Tammy Thompson

AGENDA ITEMS

NEW BUSINESS

- 1) **ISSUE:** United Way Campaign – Ron Hochstatter, Associate Professor, Communication Studies & Speech

DISCUSSION: Ron thanked faculty for their donations and reported that this year's campaign improved over last year's by 175% for a total of \$6,800. The campaign ended on 11/13/15.

ACTION: None at this time

ADDITIONAL ISSUE: Ron updated FC members on a new program starting at McLennan to improve the success rates of male minority students. The "Men of Color" initiative will begin in Spring 2016 and is modeled after a similar one at Tarrant Community College. After implementation, TCC has seen graduation rates rise significantly for male students of color. More information will be coming soon.

- 2) **ISSUE:** New Bookstore Policy – price matching

DISCUSSION: The FCP reported that the MCC Bookstore started price matching on November 1. With this new policy, if a student purchases a book in our bookstore but finds the same item at a lower price from another vendor within seven days, Follett will return the price difference to the student on a gift card. The textbook must be the same edition and in the same condition (new or used). To take advantage of this policy, all students need to do is bring in a printout noting the lower price. Nikki Popko, the McLennan Bookstore manager, believes this change will greatly benefit our students.

QUESTIONS FROM FC MEMBERS: What about matching with Amazon, online purchases? What about buying directly from the publisher, like My Math Lab? Yes, these should be covered, but check with Nikki to confirm.

ACTION: Encourage your students to get their price-difference credit when they find their textbooks at a lower price from another vendor.

RELATED ISSUE: FC Bookstore Committee Members are Susan Spooner, Jim McKeown, Amber Bracken, Andrew Clayton, Marc Nicholas, Tammy Thompson, Kelly Parker, Jan Robertson, and Sharon Allen. Four members may attend the monthly Bookstore meeting, so assign responsibilities and let the FCP and FCVP know. The next Bookstore Committee meeting on 11/20/15.

3) **ISSUE:** PD Day sessions

DISCUSSION: The FCP asked FC members about their overall PD Day experience and the sessions they found most relevant and helpful. Feedback included: *Excellent! The Middle East presentation was stellar and the Q&A fantastic. The gun presentation was really good. Byron McClenney's suggestion to review the new College Scorecard website (<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/>) was helpful; the site is very "enlightening."*

ACTION: Email Staci Taylor if you have suggestions for future PD Day presentations.

4) **ISSUE:** David Davenport for soccer at McLennan

DISCUSSION: David Davenport, Professor of Economics & Business, proposed establishing men's and ladies' soccer at MCC. He researched the possibility and presented a written report, which was a part of his trip to New Zealand (where he taught online for the summer and fall of 2014). He completed a cost/benefit analysis of starting a soccer program here. His summary is attached. A motion was made for FC to endorse his recommendations to Administration and the Board and the vote was 19 in favor, 1 Abstention, 0 Against.

ACTION: Talk to your colleagues about starting a soccer program at MCC.

OLD BUSINESS

1) **ISSUE:** Student evaluation pilot – PD Day session

DISCUSSION: The FCP informed FC members that they can view their current response rates for their evaluations by following these steps (responses cannot be viewed until after grades are submitted):

- Click on this link: <http://mcciep.mclennan.edu/>
- Click on EvaluationKit (listed on screen-right).
- Login and then click that you 'forgot your password'. The system will email you one.
- Check your email for the message from EvaluationKit and then click on the link within it.

- Create a password and then enter EvaluationKit.
- After you have established a password, you won't need to do this again.

During the last week of the semester, school will set up "Evaluation Station" response tables in the MAC, LTC, possibly the CSC, and other as yet decided locations to encourage students to complete their course evaluations.

ACTION: Encourage your student to complete their course evaluations!

OTHER ISSUES?

1) **ISSUE:** Guest speakers in Faculty Council meetings

DISCUSSION: The FCP asked FC members to share their thoughts on having guest speakers at the monthly meetings. After input from many FC members, the general consensus was to limit the frequency of guest speakers (not every meeting) and the length of time they are given to speak to about five minutes. FC members expressed that other meetings were better suited for guest speakers.

ACTION: None at this time.

2) **ISSUE:** What recourse does faculty have with students who consistently cause problems in class? What is the proper procedure if removal seems to be the only solution?

DISCUSSION: An FC member asked about appropriate protocol for students who regularly disrupt class and members discussed how they had handle disrupting students. Workforce faculty, especially those in Allied Health, have very clear behavioral expectations and can remove a student from the program if necessary; generally, their students are given three chances to correct their behavior before being rejected. FC members stressed the importance of documentation with difficult students. Insight is the campus software intended for this and can be found on the website here:

<http://www.mclennan.edu/insight/>. Many FC members wondered if faculty are allowed to drop a student for repeatedly disrupting the learning environment. The detailed conduct policy is here (cut & paste into browser): <http://www.mclennan.edu/employees/policy-manual/docs/E-VIII.pdf>. For information about the Insight system and handling difficult students, contact Josh Rieff, associate director of Student Development (299-8565). An FC member also noted that the campus Counseling Center (in the Math & Wellness Building) is currently in a state of transition.

ACTION: Discuss with your colleagues their interpretation of the conduct policy and strategies for handling difficult students.

The meeting adjourned at 4 pm.

David Davenport
Faculty Council Secretary

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