

Faculty Senate Minutes
Monday, February 6, 2012
Misner Room, Collins Library

Senators present: Keith Ward, Fred Hamel, Leslie Saucedo, Kriszta Kotsis, Elise Richman, Ross Singleton, Bill Barry, Martin Luther, Mike Segawa, Kelli Delaney, Kris Bartanen, Steven Neshyba

Guests present: None

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

I. Minutes of January 23, 2012 meeting were approved with edits submitted via email prior to today's meeting.

II. Announcements

Hamel inquired about the upcoming Campus Climate Survey. Bartanen noted that faculty, staff, and administration were making a concerted effort to encourage broad participation in the survey, including distribution of posters, email alerts, staged readings by faculty, and posting of narratives on-line. (The link to the Survey appears in a February 13 email from the Chief Diversity Officer.)

III. Special Orders

None.

IV. Liaison Reports

Barry reported and sought Senate feedback on a policy recently adopted by the Academic Standards Committee (ASC) enabling staff to report student violations of academic integrity. (As of the February 6 meeting, the new policy had yet to be posted in the ASC minutes. It was agreed among Senators that the "30-day clock" would not begin until such posting.) The new policy effectively assigns to the Associate Academic Dean not otherwise involved in the hearing board process the authority to investigate on behalf of staff alleged student violations of academic integrity and ultimately to refer such allegations to a hearing board for final determination and, if appropriate, sanctions. Senators (Singleton, Richman) expressed concern that, in the case of violations in the context of a class, staff would report to an Associate Dean and not the instructor. Ward and Barry countered that the Associate Dean might serve as a more disinterested party and worried that a report to the instructor could compromise the relationship between a staff and faculty member who work closely together. Others commented, however, that making the Associate Dean the sole recipient of staff reports of violations might itself deter such reports and that, further, it was important to honor the faculty member's position as instructor of the course. Other concerns were raised about language defining the circumstances in which the Associate

Dean would forward a staff allegation to a hearing board. Barry promised to take Senators' concerns back to the ASC for further revision of the policy.

Kotsis reported that LMIS had developed plans to implement a print management system, called Print Green for students who print papers and other documents in the Library. She reported that the average number of pages printed per semester per student was 457 and the median 275. Five percent of students, however, print 1,536 pages or more per year. LMIS is considering a proposal that would allow students to print up to 750 pages free of charge. Printing in excess of 750 would be charged to the student at 10 cents per page.

Hamel reported that the Curriculum Committee was reviewing the guidelines for the interdisciplinary emphasis.

V. Continuation of priorities & implementation strategies for faculty governance practices

The Senate returned to its discussion of the MacBain/Kessel report on faculty governance. (MacBain and Kessel prepared the report after their attendance at an AAUP meeting on best practices in faculty governance.) Senators agreed to discuss those issues that related directly to the Senate itself. Senators then took up how to proceed with the discussion of the list. Singleton, in particular, asked by what criteria do we pursue one practice and not another. Senators batted this question around for a few minutes, but eventually many Senators agreed that items that promoted (1) trust between faculty and administration, (2) communication and transparency between faculty and administration, (3) faculty participation in governance, and (4) the effectiveness of the Senate were useful criteria by which to evaluate the items.

Ward moved and Singleton seconded that the Senate formally adopt the criteria of trust, transparency, efficacy, and faculty participation for determining what to adopt or explore from the MacBain/Kessel list. The motion failed.

Bartanen observed that discussion of these items could occupy the Senate for the remainder of the semester. Perhaps it would be more efficient if the Senate simply worked on implementation of the one recommendation it had already adopted, namely the creation of a Faculty Senate handbook (Recommendation 1). Once implemented, the Senate might return to other practices.

Barry suggested that the Senate hand over many of the items to the Executive Committee for review.

M (Barry)/S/P that Items 2 (create Senate webpage), 4 (appoint Senate parliamentarian), 8 (create an election committee), and 10 (establish formal relationship between Faculty and Staff Senates) be taken up by the Executive Committee.

M (Barry)/S/P that the Senate itself take up items 6 (develop and adopt a scheme of senatorial representation of faculty groups on campus), 9 (create an admissions committee), and 12 (broaden faculty awareness of budget and expenditure issues).

It was noted that items 5 (Senate representation at Chairs' meetings) and 11 (posting a brief digest of action immediately after Senate meetings) were already in effect. At an earlier meeting the Senate voted not to adopt Item 3 (hold cabinet meetings between the Senate Executive Committee and standing committee chairs) and 7 (include "contingent" faculty on the Senate).

VI. The Senate adjourned at about 5:40.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bill Barry

Scribe of the Day

Tiffany Aldrich MacBain

Secretary of the Faculty Senate