

Faculty Senate Executive Committee Minutes

March 4, 2014
LC 243, 3:00-5:00 pm



Present: Mark Bracken, Clayton Brown, Kat Brown, David Connelly, Karen Cushing, Matt Draper, Lars Eggertsen, Dan McDonald, Gary Measom, Rick Moody, Dennis Potter, Russ Thornley, Marcus Vincent, Ian Wilson

Excused or Absent: *Tyler Brklacich, Matthew Holland*

- Call to order – 3:05 PM
- Approval of Minutes from February 18, 2014. Exec meeting. Minutes approved.
- UVUSA – Student Government is currently holding elections for next year.
- SVPAA
 - Searches – Kat reported that Forrest Williams is the new Dean for University College and will begin July 1, 2014. Interviews are completed for the Science & Health Dean and the AVP for Engaged Learning. The eLearning & Academic Outreach is still ongoing. Interviews will be conducted after break. Interviews for the SVPAA will also begin after break.
 - Kat noted that all the searches have been national searches, but what we are finding is that some positions fill a specific niche and individuals are not sure what to do with them or their experience is not the most relevant part of their portfolio.
- Policy 638 - *Post-Tenure*
 - This policy will be the first reading at the next senate meeting. David encouraged the Policy Committee to begin the conversation with problems they feel need to be addressed.
 - Some of the Executive Committee recommended that a brief history of the policy development be shared to include that the policy committee was selected by the Faculty Senate and that Annual Review and Rank committees were brought in the final discussions since these policies overlap. Need to make it clear to the senate that the charge of the senate last year was to revise the Post-Tenure policy so it was not a discipline policy. They wanted it linked to the annual review. Kat will provide the original policy version in addition to the current version for senate to review and comment. Need to remind senate that Regents and NWCCU is requiring a post-tenure policy and this was the course of action that senate voted to take last year.
 - Need to remind faculty that annual reviews are simply that, an annual review. There is a link between the annual review and the post-tenure process if you do not receive a positive review. There is concern over the potential for a faculty member to face post-tenure more than every five years if they receive a poor review. Faculty need to review the policy carefully.

- Policy 504 – *Excessive Credits*
 - Senate needs to review the boilerplate language. Primarily deals with students being charged extra tuition if they exceed a specific number of credits.
- Policy 522 – *Undergraduate Credit & Transcripts*
 - Senate needs to review carefully as the policy does cover areas such as credit for testing out and experiential credit.
- Future of the Senate
 - First step is to rescind the three motions made last week in senate. The motion, with David’s permission, is to retain David as the interim president since faculty has not come forward to run for president. Will send an email out to faculty for ratification.
 - Proposed to rescind the three motions, list the new motion, and seek a ratification vote of the senate president. If ratification passes, then will ask for a full faculty vote. Senate response due Monday, March 10 and Faculty vote due by March 20.
- Senate Action
 - Service Resolution tabled – Several senators felt that some sort of action should have been taken. Do we do enough activity such as resolutions as a senate as a whole? Most felt no. Bracken felt that the service resolution does need to be passed and forwarded to faculty to inform them as they develop their post-tenure review criteria. Need to remind faculty that service is an important component part of being a faculty member.
 - Resolutions need to be simple language stating a point of view of the senate versus policies that need to contain specific language. Suggestions: 1) nothing on the senate agenda until fully vetted in the Executive Committee and 2) talk to senate about writing resolutions.
 - The Executive Committee would like boilerplate letters to recognize service specifying the committee’s charge, what was accomplished, and the time involvement for the faculty member.
 - How can we improve the culture of senate? 1) Frame the discussion and identify what the issues are. Discussion over creating a Parliamentary position. Suggest breaking items down into segments when presenting to senate so senate only has to focus on specific items. Suggestion of a time limitation. David stated that senate needs to make the calls. Might need to review Roberts Rules of Procedures. David will send out Roberts Rules to the senate.
- Role Statements
 - A role statement is the basic idea you can go in and work with the chair and stipulate what your employment mix looks like. Examples could be that 1) focus more on research and formally written up on how you do that, and 2) focus more on teaching. The idea is that it is more formalized. Need to consider a specific period time.
 - USU – if tenure track line, you will need to fill all three roles (teaching, research, service). Once tenured, you have the ability to review the portfolio and customize it.

- What are the overall expectations of a faculty member and being a citizen of the institution? Where does the balance occur and who determines it in order to maintain the campus average?
- Need to consider how this impacts rank advancement.
- Need to define what role statements are and introduce the three areas for discussion.
- Executive Committee would like to see role statements not necessarily in policy but more as a guideline.
- David will revise the Role Statements. Need to let senate determine if it needs to be a policy discussion or just guiding criteria.

Rick Moody motioned to adjourn. Russ Thornley seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.