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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes #18

October 16, 2014

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:10 AM on Thursday, October 16, 2014 in Library Conference Room A, Chairperson Nassersharif presiding. Senators Cerbo, Rarick, Rollo Koster, Sullivan, and Welters were present.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

a. The FSEC reviewed the agenda for the upcoming meeting of the Senate Chair and Vice Chair with the Provost scheduled for October 17, 2014.

b. Chairperson Nassersharif and Vice Chairperson Rollo Koster reported that they were scheduled to meet for lunch with the AAUP leadership and the Provost on that day.

3. NEW BUSINESS

The FSEC discussed short-term (2-3 week) course offerings, aka winter J-term and "summer j-term." Chairperson Nassersharif had been asked by a faculty member if the Faculty Senate had approved a 2-3 week course structure for offering during the 2014 summer sessions. The Chair had learned that some condensed-format courses had been offered as a trial during the previous summer. The Senate had not been consulted. The FSEC discussed the advantages and disadvantages of short-term courses. Chairperson Nassersharif said that he would follow up on the issue with the Provost.

4. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. The FSEC discussed proposed changes to the promotion and tenure standards as suggested by the President. Although it was agreed that junior faculty would benefit from better guidance, FSEC members expressed concern for developing guidelines that were too encoded or insensitive or inflexible to discipline. The FSEC discussed ways to engage deans and chairs in the discussion.

b. The FSEC discussed the Administrator Evaluation (AE) process. The Committee reiterated the intention to review Vice Provost Beauvais because her contract is scheduled for renewal in 2015. The Committee discussed the review process for the President and the efforts made by the FSEC in 2013-14 to engage the Board of Education in the dissemination of the evaluation results. As currently structured, the report of results of the President's performance is shared only with the President. The President was amenable to the results being distributed to the Board. The Board was not responsive last year. The FSEC acknowledged that there will likely be new Board members in 2015 and will attempt to re-engage the Board regarding this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff