

Minutes of the Faculty Senate Officers Meeting
Tuesday, November 29, 2016

Board Room, A-318 @ 12:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Dr. Kaye Walter, President
Dr. William Mullaney, Vice President, Academic Affairs
Dr. Alan Kaufman, Chairman, Faculty Senate
Professor Joan Cohen, Vice-Chairman, Faculty Senate
Professor Brian Cordell
Dr. Tobyn DeMarco

The meeting began at 12:40 p.m.

The Presidents' Council & General Education:

Dr. Kaufman asked President Walter to explain why the Presidents Council has stepped back from the original moratorium on General Education.

Dr. Walter explained that the President's Council passed the moratorium because they found that Colleges were submitting courses, such as ceramics and glassblowing, for General Education approval that were not appropriate. Dr. Kaufman also advised that the committee that he and Dr. Kim are co-chairing should have a policy statement to put before the curriculum committee and then the Senate regarding the approval and deletion of courses, options and programs.

Issues with students and professors:

Dr. DeMarco suggested that we form a college-wide committee to study the current policies and develop or modify new policies on faculty safety issues and students misbehaving. The BIT practices need to be changed/or upgraded. When there is a problem in a classroom and the Faculty and Dean, try to contact the students, most times the students do not return phone calls. Dr. DeMarco suggested that students should not be allowed back in the classroom before the intervention, monitoring or examination of the student takes place. He suggests a public safety officer be located near the classroom for the next session. There should be additional steps before the student is allowed back in the classroom. Ms. Cohen suggested that there should be a more visible force of Public Safety officers in the library. Dr. Walter advised that Dr. Mullaney and the Faculty Senate should come together and form a committee to discuss the current policy. The Senate and non-faculty members should be invited to be part of this committee, including VP Corcoran, Dean Lerner, and staff members.

Dr. Demarco said the Administration and Senate need also to address the student complaint process, by which complaints are filed through the web on the Maxient software system. Dr. Mullaney advised when complaints are filed they go directly to the Chair of the department who

then forwards them to the Deans. Dr. Demarco thinks that the Chair should first forward complaints to the Faculty involved and then to the Dean. He suggested that the complaints should go to a neutral person who would direct the complaints to the assigned parties.

Dr. Walter advised Dr. Mullaney to schedule a meeting with Rachel to discuss what the revised policy should be when a complaint is received from a student.

Dr. Kaufman asked who is going to occupy the second administrator's position in the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Walter asked Dr. Mullaney to appoint one of the Deans to sit in the VP of Student Affairs position on the Faculty Senate until the position is filled. Dr. Mullaney said that Dr. Brown has agreed to serve.

Books:

Dr. Kaufman thinks there is a dilemma about electronic books. He asked if students should be allowed to have their books electronically on phones and laptops. He finds that when he walks around his classroom, some students are doing other things rather than reading their electronic books. Dr. Walter suggested that there should be a statement on his syllabus, that if books are kept on their electronic devices, students must have these books opened on their devices when the class is in session.

Faculty Conferences – Professional Development Day:

Dr. Kaufman asked that the conferences be held earlier rather than later in the semester. Dr. Mullaney advised he is in the process of doing a three-year academic calendar, and he would discuss moving Professional Day to a different time on the calendar with the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by
Carol Clarke
Administrative Assistant, President's Office