

USI Faculty Senate Minutes
September 8, 2017
UCE 2207

Senators Present: Rich Bennett, Peter Cashel-Cordo, Chuck Conaway, Charlotte Connerton, Ron Diersing, Wes Durham, Ethel Elkins, Brett Long, Dane Partridge, Kenny Purcell, Erin Reynolds, Peter Whiting, Angie Wooton.

Visitors: Amy Chan Hilton (CETL), Shelly Blunt, Ronald Rochon (Provost's Office), Stacy Draper (IT), Phoneshia Wells (NHP, WOCA)

1. Report and discussion on the USI Information Security Policy

Stacy Draper, Assistant Director of Information Technology Security

- Gave a report on the Information Security Policy. The goal of the policy is to establish a culture that security is everyone's responsibility. A soft launch of the policy is on the USI IT website, with the next step being the handbook. With the soft launch they have already made several tweaks and are looking for more feedback.
- In the next week or two, they will be rolling out a new secure email option.
- They want to start classifying data as critical/restricted, etc. Brett Long asked for some examples of these classifications. For critical data examples include credit card information, social security number, etc. Examples for restricted data include: grades, transcripts, etc. Ken Purcell/Rich Bennett asked about FERPA and sending emails between faculty members about grades and Stacy said she would get back to us. Likewise she will follow-up on Brett Long's question of candidate CVs, etc.
- All employees will be going through a mandatory training, much like the Title IX training. Brett Long asked if this would be annually and the answer was unclear, though likely to be at least every 2 years. Erin Reynolds asked if they would do face-to-face training and the answer was yes, if wanted.
- Nick LaRowe asked the question of whether the person who creates the security breach will be liable. The answer was that, typically, the university may be liable, but not individual people. A follow-up to this was whether the university was insured (not yet) and whether there was overlap with OSPRA (working together to make sure data is identified correctly).

2. Report and discussion on the Women of Color in the Academy

Dr. Phoneshia Wells, Assistant Professor of Health Sciences and VP of the Women of Color in the Academy at USI.

- Dr. Wells mentioned that the main goal of the group was to support and provide visibility for women of color at USI. This is open to all faculty, staff, and especially students. The intent is to help everyone feel more included and also help with retention of both faculty and students.
- The group has the following upcoming events:
 - Lunch and Learn meetings on 9/14, 10/17, and 11/14 geared towards helping first and second year students and retention.
 - Allies meeting for the university community to learn about the organization and how they help.

3. Report from Dr. Rochon

- Convocation, Oct. 13th: Expectation is for faculty to wear regalia, but new faculty may not have any yet. Therefore, the bookstore will be able to let people rent doctoral regalia for new faculty. MFA and other regalia can be purchased. Both renting and purchasing would need to be done by Oct. 1st. Furthermore, doctoral regalia may be purchased in time, but that would need to be done by next Wednesday. An email will be going out to let people know, but he would also like us to get out the word. Also he wanted us to encourage other faculty to attend and there would be a reception afterwards.
- Portfolio Guidelines: Tenure-track faculty must make a choice, so encourage everyone to read carefully and make a decision. The decision is not reversible.
- Ed.D. program is moving forward and received a thumbs up from commission. Have another meeting with full Department of Education and then with HLC, but so far it is looking good.
- Provost is seeking nominations for the honorary doctorate.
- Faculty Awards Guidelines: In the past committees sometimes met by email and we are now looking into existing practices, trying to get best practices to senate, and then senate will give a recommendation to the provost. Want to communicate to donors that there is a proper vetting process. He believes these awards are faculty awards, but thinks there is a need for chair, dean, and provost inputs to the process.
- Promotions Committee: Has been an even number of representatives and he would like there to be an odd number. One idea is to have a clinical faculty member make up that spot since there is not an existing place. Nursing and Health Professions is already working on a charge for this.
- Presidential search: Board of Trustees will have a meeting on Oct. 4th and will identify the process and calendar for the search.
- Master Plan: Discussion ongoing, will move on to students, and then will discuss what is realistic.
- Academic Partnership: Launched RN-BSN. We had the first online MBA graduate from Ohio. Provost called him for feedback and it was positive.
- Dane Partridge: "Will there be a DACA statement?" Dr. Bennett speaks with the students directly, not make public statement.

4. Approval of Minutes-August 17, 2017

Minutes of the last meeting were approved with a slight ammendment.

5. Student Publications Committee

Committee positions are 2 years, so there is only one position needed to fill. Nominations will be collected for next meeting.

6. *Ad Hoc Student Evaluation Committee Update*

- Rich Bennett found the original charge and it was what the committee had been working under.
- He talked to Dr. Rochon. He mentioned they were looking at expanding the committee to include Kat Draughon, a dean, a representation from online learning, and possibly a representative from SGA. He wanted feedback to see if faculty senate was OK with this approach. Provost: intent of this expansion is to help aid the efficiency of the committee.
- Chuck Conaway mentioned that the original intention was a narrow/smaller committee.
- Several concerns were mentioned about the timeline, in particular the importance of allowing enough time for faculty input to the proposed questions. Peter Cashel-Cordo proposed that the questions/information be sent out to faculty at the end of the semester/December and then faculty will be able to provide informed opinions on the changes at the breakout sessions in the Spring meeting. Peter Whiting asked for the committee to give a report later in the semester.
- Dane Partridge mentioned that a SGA representative could help with how to get better response rates.
- Nominations were taken to replace the Liberal Arts member on the committee. Ronda Priest to replace Sheri. Charlotte mentioned that, in the future, it would be helpful to give the names of the nominees at least a couple of days beforehand in order to give a more informed vote.
- A vote was held to expand the committee, with 11 voting for, 2 no.

7. *Faculty Senate Charge Form Update*

Need to change the phrase “Items 4-6...” to “Items 5-7”. This change was approved and Peter Whiting said that he would take care of it.

8. *Adjournment*

Meeting was adjourned: 4:02pm.