

## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes - UNAPPROVED

7 December 2018

Senators present: Chuck Conaway, Kenny Purcell, Brandon Field, Charlotte Connerton, Rex Strange, Al Holen, Ethel Elkins, Rich Bennett, Wes Durham, Peter Cashel-Cordo, Shannon Pritchard, Mary Doerner, Ken Shemroske.

Other attendees: Ronald Rochon, Aaron Trump, Mohammed Khayum, Michael Dixon, Andrea Wright, Ingrid Lundy.

- Meeting called to order: 2:31 pm.
- Dr. Rochon attended to give us some updates:
  - His first priority this semester has been to meet as many people in the Statehouse as possible. Has met with many people from the state legislature, and with the governor. (Governor's message is workforce development and collaboration between state universities.)
  - Has also visited each public institute president on their campus to discuss collaboration. Has been well-received.
  - Has pitched to the Commission for a request for an increase in the full-time faculty.
  - Introduced Aaron Trump, the new hire for Government Affairs. He offered to be invited to future Senate meetings and to get to know faculty and departments around campus.
- Previous minutes: approved unanimously with minor edits.
- Ingrid Lundy, chair of Admin Senate to present the changes to the Sick Time use for Family Illness policy. Each of us have 75 hours of our own sick pay that we can use for Family Sick leave per year. Their proposal is to increase that to 150 hours.
  - Motion was made to endorse the change of Family sick leave from 75 hours to 150 hours per fiscal year. Unanimously approved.
  - Also: watch for a new Anthem card from CVS because the prescription coverage is changing.
- Chair's Report from Chuck:
  - Breakout sessions for the Spring meeting are set:
    - Mellisa Hall (New Program Development Committee) 30 minutes
    - Michael Dixon / Shelly Blunt (Reporting Academic Integrity Violations) 30 minutes
    - Kat Draughon / Stacy Draper (Data Governance)
    - Nick LaRowe / Tom Longwell (Dealing with Stressed Students)
    - Greg Johnson / Stephanie Diekmann (USI Factbook).
    - Jeanne McAlister (SETs)
    - Peter Whiting (Library)
  - Marcia Kiessling has said that the members of the search committee for the Dean of Students position will be announced soon.
  - SET Student Comments:
    - Chuck and Kenny met with Carrie Lynn (Title IX) and Nick LaRowe to discuss how we might respond to student comments that violate the code of conduct. Will draft a

reminder of the Student Code of Conduct (with Nick's help) and will bring that draft statement to Senate. Intent is to have that statement on the SET front page, before students begin the survey.

- Carrie Lynn has agreed to get information together about exactly what type of comments do or don't violate the code of conduct, as well as what faculty members should do if they receive offending comments.
- More on Prescription Coverage, from HR:
  - Some employees have prescriptions that may be affected by the change: Some people's medication will not be automatically covered: 68 people could opt to pay a higher copay or switch to a different medication, 190 people will need to consult with the doctor to switch to a medicine from a different manufacturer. People could contact CVS for exceptions.
  - The letter will recommend people to renew their prescriptions before December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Undergraduate Admissions: Recently enabled a portal for potential students to automatically request a meeting with a faculty member by clicking a box on the online form for setting up an on-campus visit. The concern was expressed that this might lead to an increase in the number of prospective student visits, which could become burdensome for some of the faculty, and considerations may need to be made if it does become burdensome, especially when visits may be occurring during summer, when faculty members are off-contract.
- Open Access Journal Publications: There was interest in expanding the request for application of funding that was approved for publication costs in open access journals toward publishing costs for traditional journals or for other scholarly venues, such as submission fees for art exhibitions. Charges will be prepared for the Spring Semester by Rex and Al.
- President's Council: Budget hearings
  - The traditional budget hearing meetings that were scheduled to begin in January have been postponed, possibly eliminated. In their place, meetings will be held, which will include Faculty Senate (or at least, its Chair) discussing the Pros and Cons of the budget process. The purpose will be to redesign the process as it will proceed going forward, especially with regard to the perceived pointlessness (?) of asking all kinds of units to prepare a wish list for resources that aren't available or may or may not be available because we won't know until we hear from Indianapolis what the budget will be.
  - When Chuck met with President Rochon (Friday, November 30), he indicated that he thinks it will be preferable to have meetings later in the Spring (possibly even summer) once we know what the budget will be. If that is the case, Senate needs to ask for and make sure it has a seat at the table at that time.
  - President Rochon emphasized the fact that the public nature of the Budget Hearings will not go away.
- Curriculum Committee has had attendance problems this semester. Several members have not attended over half of the meetings. Chuck will draft some language about the

importance of our efforts in shared governance regarding the commitment to subcommittee work.

- Interim Provost's report:
  - Thanked us for all the work that we've done this semester.
  - Does Faculty Senate have a role in the orientation of new faculty? Perhaps someone from Faculty Senate should present to new faculty about the purpose of Senate and shared Governance.
    - There should be more awareness built among faculty about what it is that we do.
    - The rest of the campus should be more informed; maybe one person should be asked to compile a list of things that have been done and continual communication throughout the semester.
- Charge regarding faculty status for post-doctoral status.
  - Motion to approve the charge to endorse the modification to the handbook to include post-docs in the employment handbook.
  - The deans have come up with a future proposal regarding post docs that will come up
  - Motion unanimously approved.
- Faculty Representation on Administrative Search Committees: report from FAA Committee indicated that there is not a uniform policy across higher ed regarding faculty membership, but the report made a recommendation for one faculty member elected from each college and a representative of Faculty Senate. Motion was made to accept the report and forward the charges to the Provost's office. Passed with one opposing vote, because the request seems like an excessively burdensome number, especially as four sets of college-wide elections need to be done in a timely manner.
- Meeting adjourned: 4:45 pm.