

## Faculty Senate meeting

21 August 2020

Senators in Attendance: Rex Strange, Brandon Field, Adrian Gentle, Bartell Berg, Chuck Conaway, Jamie Seitz, Jinsuk Yang, Kenny Purcell, Laura Bernhardt, Mary Doerner, Marilyn Ostendorf, Peter Cashel-Cordo, Sang woo Heo, Steve Gruenewald.

Other Attendees: Mohammed Khayum, Ronald Rochon, Shelly Blunt

- Held via Zoom meeting. Called to order: 2pm.
- Senators introduced ourselves.
- Brandon Field got elected Secretary by acclamation.
- Dr. Khayum said some words about the situation we find ourselves in.
- Dr. Rochon talked about safety and mitigating risk to the campus community.
  - Biggest challenges for Universities have been students getting together off campus. A video was made for our students, sharing the expectations for them.
  - Working to reduce the number of people on campus by having some staff working from home. Have asked faculty to minimize the amount of time on campus, and to meet students in socially distant manners.
  - Have been talking with parents and people around town, and they are appreciative of the efforts that we have been making.
  - Have had a positive case on campus already, have been working to contact trace, and it is hard work.
  - Remains positive with regard to this semester.
  - We are just under 40% with regard to face-to-face classes. If there are any outbreaks, we will need to changes.
  - Thanks to all the senators. Especially thanks to Kenny Purcell for his service last year.
  - He knows there have been difficulties with the appointment letters that were sent out this summer from his office. He got the impression that there were people who felt there was ill intent on the part of his office, and that was not the case. His intent was to bring transparency to the situation that the University is in.
  - Will be appointing a task force to focus on race. Wants to produce an agenda and items that can become initiatives that we can work toward.
- Dr. Khayum:
  - Dealing with conflicting definitions. The meaning of "close contact" to this campus follows the CDC definition: In a confined space, less than 6' distance, masked or not, for 15 minutes or more. In a classroom, for faculty, we have tried to do the best to layout the rooms to have everyone more than 6' apart.

In all the buildings that it is possible, the ventilation has maximized the outdoor air being circulated.

- Self-reporting forms are critical. Working on a dashboard that will display all the information that we have about our campus; cases, positivity rate, infection rates, etc. He hopes to have faculty with data analysis experience to help with the calculations. Will also look at where the cases are coming from.
- Our enrollment is pretty good, considering the circumstances. We are less than 5% down. We have had a good numbers with regard to returning students.
- We have submitted proposals for some multi-million dollar grants that will expand our infrastructure toward the Adult Learner, and we will know something about one of them in September.
- Procedures:
  - Rex would like to make a distinction between action items and discussion items, because some of the things that get to us are more discussion
  - When someone gives us a charge, we should read over it and make sure that the requests are concise, and that those things are actionable.
  - For running the meeting, Rex would like us to follow the agenda. Somethings that we do that are off the agenda are useful, but some are not.
  - A quorum is required to vote, but people abstaining from a vote do not reduce the number of quorum.
  - After a vote is taken, no further discussion should be made at that meeting.
  - Plan is to meet every other week on Fridays, at 2:30pm.
- There will be reports to review, accept, and things to recommend in the next meeting.
- Senate should develop a response to the University in the event of financial exigency as for recommendations in that event.
- Adjourned: 4:08pm

Minutes recorded by Brandon Field, secretary.