

Faculty Senate
November 7, 2017
Griggs Center, 3:00-4:30 p.m.
Approved 11/21/2017

Attendees: Molly Harney, Rebecca de Souza, Joseph Bauerkemper, Roger Reinsch, Daniel Hsiao, Octavio Fortini, Richard Maclin, Paula Gudmundson, Jenna Soleo Shanks, Jamie Ratliff, Dan Glisczinski, Robert Feyen, EVCAA Fernando Delgado, Rudy Perrault, Zhuangyi Liu
Excused: Amy Versnik Nowak

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. and introductions were held. Zhuangyi Liu attended on behalf of the Research, Scholarship, & Creative Activities Subcommittee.

Approval of October 24, 2017 minutes

The minutes were approved with two abstentions.

Information Sharing / Committee Reports

Research Scholarship & Creative Activities Subcommittee, Zhuangyi Liu

Zhuangyi reported the subcommittee discussed the promotion of collaboration of research among colleges and at other universities, and the opportunities for financial support to conduct research and can the UMD Development Office help raise fund. The R2 university discussion continued with more information being provided at the 11/15/17 subcommittee meeting.

UEA, Rudy Perrault

Rudy reported meetings have begun with departments to discuss union membership. The informational meetings on Thursdays at 1:00 continue with the fair share members meeting next week to explore ideas and gain insight of how the union can serve them.

Curriculum Subcommittee, Dan Glisczinski

The members discussed the constituent perspectives about the proposal of the Curriculum Subcommittee reviewing curriculum and program proposals. The feedback is generally non-supportive, while noting there may be good value in doing so. There were questions such as how to handle redundancy, and what is the timeline. There was discussion about revising the online addendum form to course proposals because it is somewhat cumbersome, but yet effective. The members would like additional feedback before revisions take place. Dan noted the transfer curriculum review time is three weeks before it moves to the AVC's office; is that an effective timeline? One item coming forward to the Faculty Senate is whether transfer curriculum may be approved as a trans designator in general if it comes from a regionally accredited higher education institution and if the curriculum is accepted as transfer curriculum to account for the 128 credits to graduate if it would then come to the department representative to assign department equivalency. The subcommittee is preparing a balanced report to bring to the Faculty Senate. Dan recognized the good work of the Assessment Subcommittee. A faculty member indicated feedback received from constituents was non-committal and a newer faculty member questioned the redundancy and why is it necessary to add another level to the approval of curriculum. Dan made a note to include international credit transfers in the upcoming discussion.

Liberal Education Subcommittee, Jamie Ratliff

The subcommittee met with members of the Assessment Subcommittee to review and discuss the assessment reports that had been submitted by faculty in the three liberal education categories that reported this year. A discussion followed about the role of the subcommittee members and need of a process for reviewing, reporting and disseminating the assessment information that is received.

Graduate Programs Committee, Robert Feyen

The committee conducted a survey of the directors of graduate studies to gain insight about compensation for their work and is there uniformity across campus. A small subcommittee working group will review the data. There also appears to be a general lack of understanding of the role of the DGS and discussion will continue to ensure consistency. The expectations of the Plan B's across campus are varied and committee members will again work towards consistency.

University Coordinating Council (UCC), Molly Harney

Molly was elected as chair of UCC and Jessi Eaton will serve as vice chair. The Excused Absence Policy was presented to UCC for interest in dissemination. The Faculty Senate, Student Experiences, and Athletics, will review. The Chancellor's Leadership Council cascading messages are on the senate website. A few highlights include an app being developed for students (contact Corbin Smyth for additional information) and Mindy Granley, Sustainability Coordinator, discussed the campus solar presence activities. Karna Kurtz reported she is in the final stages of hiring the remaining two staff members who will complete her team.

Workgroups

No information was reported.

Unfinished Business and General Orders

Draft Assurance Argument – The EVCAA Fernando reported meetings have been held with deans, department heads and the requests have been specific that evidence is needed to support the claims (statement of facts) and the meeting of criteria and sub criteria of the assurance argument. Two colleges have responded well to support these claims. EVCAA Fernando provided examples of what data could be submitted based on the five criteria and the five subsections. EVCAA recommended that senate members talk with their dean and department head to ensure the information is being provided. A faculty member indicated that based on past accreditation years closing the loop on self-assessments is something to ensure is documented. The EVCAA will touch base on this request with college leadership again as well. Molly will meet with Jen and share feedback.

Mid-Term Grading policy feedback – The members shared feedback received by their constituents and much thoughtful discussion occurred. EVCAA Fernando will be meeting with the students to discuss the suggested policy revisions as well as the wants and needs. The chair asked permission to meet with Molly McDonald and discuss the feedback received from constituent groups.

Language for stepping out of a meeting - As a recap the issue is whether or not language is needed to thoughtfully request a senate member step out of the meeting during a conversation that could possibly have a direct impact. Following very thoughtful discussion the senate members agreed the Climate working group will create a statement about respective protocol for supporting open communication that will be shared with senate members.

New Business

Excused Absence Policy – Please share with constituent groups and report back at the next senate meeting. Take in to consideration that NCAA was left out of the policy and the authors will add that language in the policy.

Adjourn 4:35 p.m.