

Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2013

1. John Ostrander from SPEL spoke on partnership with Chevron Richmond Refinery and a UTC grant opportunity.

A new Maritime Safety and Security Center will replace the Treasure Island firefighting facility, funded by a federal grant and Chevron funds. Hope to have a building in place and offer first classes by end of Fall 2013. Director will be Bruce Clark.

Q: What's the status of approvals by Coast Guard and other agencies?
A: Coast Guard will do a site visit to approve.

Q: Can you define simulation?
A: This is a full gas fire simulation, both shipboard and shore side.

This facility will also do vessel training for law enforcement. No maritime academy has done this to best of our knowledge. Is there faculty interest in grant application?

DOT's strategic goals are 1) improve safety; 2) economic competitiveness; 3) livable communities; 4) environmental sustainability.

Comment: This new firefighting training site is critical for license track students.

2. Number of courses to be evaluated: next steps

Decision was made by the Executive Committee to delay asking President Cropper to waive requirement to evaluate every course. The President indicated he is interested in evaluating effectiveness of new course evaluation tool, especially at the institutional level.

Comment: Caution that we will have two new determinants: new tool and larger sample

Comment: Many dynamics influence how well a course goes and how students evaluate it.

Comment: RTP committees will need to take these two new determinants (new tool and larger sample) into account.

Comment: We all agree that student evaluations aren't everything. Colleague review of teaching, and samples of student work are important, but not as valuable as student perspectives.

3. Update on the Scantron machine and customized course evaluation questions

Training of administrative assistants is in process. Scantron will be up and running in a couple weeks. Cynthia Trevisan will send out a copy of 14 evaluation questions.

4. Announcement of new Executive Committee members

Serving on the committee for fall 2013 – spring 2015 term are Julie Chisholm, Steve Browne, Jon Fischer, Mike Holden, Nipoli Kamdar, Scott Powell, Cynthia Trevisan, and Michele Van Hoeck.

5. Administrator Evaluations

Executive Committee has begun discussion regarding creation of a new evaluation framework for administrators.

Vice Chair asks faculty to offer ideas and comments for what they would like to see in this process.

Meeting adjourned 11:45. Minutes respectfully submitted by Michele Van Hoeck.