

General Senate Meeting Minutes
4 September 2012

1. Call to order at 11:03am

2. New Senate Chair Julie Chisholm introduced the Executive Committee (Bill Schmid, Vice Chair; Michele Van Hoeck, Secretary; Mike Holden; Cynthia Trevisan; Mike Strange; Steve Browne, representative to Statewide Senate.

Goal for this year is to be a clear and transparent conduit for information between faculty and administration.

Julie will email weekly notices summarizing President's Council and Provost's Council.

You can also post topic suggestions on Moodle discussion forum.

Please keep yourself informed.

Minutes and policies will be posted on the portal. Senate Moodle page will be used for elections and online discussion.

3. President Cropper:

1. I'm about "we." Do not want to be "they."
2. Focused on faculty development, what faculty need to be subject matter experts.
3. Focused on Corps of Cadets as the center of gravity on campus, will also need your help with homecoming.
4. Think "anything" when it comes to future of Academy.

4. Academic Dean Nael Aly:

Faculty and administration should not be us and them, on a small campus we should be like a family working together.

5. VIMARU visiting scholars:

Lloyd Kitazono announced that visiting scholars need rides once a week to do grocery shopping. Julie has organized a language exchange twice a week in Library – Tuesdays and Fridays, 1:30-3:30.

6. Senate Chair asked the Senate for input on what issues the Executive Committee should prioritize this year:

- A. SUMMAs – all sections must be evaluated, per the new CFA contract.

Comments/Questions:

Do we want to change evaluation instruments?

What are costs of new requirements?

What about special courses with their own form?

What about labs? Untraditional classes? May create evaluation fatigue?

Asking president to waive is an option.

Online evaluations?

Is it truly all sections required, because language of contract says courses.

SUMMA results are too slow to help improve course in following semester

Size of sample is too small to be statistically significant

We will continue this discussion into the CFA meeting in the next hour.

Can we switch instruments gradually?

Not a fan of SUMMAs but it is important to make the case of teaching effectiveness to RTP evaluators. It is difficult to evaluate teaching effectiveness when an instructor only surveys one class per semester.

B. Online course policy

Senate Chair: We need input. Please post to Moodle discussion forum.

C. Request that we revisit with Registrar the Academic Disqualification policy. Current policy has several holes that need patching. Looking for more strictness for readmitting student who failed a course three times. Comments:

Holes in process for allowing STCW courses to be transferred in – this shouldn't be happening.

We are governed by the CSU policies.

We can be more strict. CSU provides minimum guidelines.

Need to look at policy by which students get dropped for non-payment of fees. Many of us are over-enrolling.

Several hands raised saying they are having this problem.

Diesel Simulator classroom is having a similar problem with more students than stations.

Nael Aly reports that Registrar will send courtesy letter Sept 7 to students that owe money. Fees due Sept 14. On Sept. 18, all students with unpaid bills will be dropped. This problem is just starting.

Senate Chair asked that faculty who did not have a chance to speak post their comments on the Senate Moodle page.

Adjournment at 11:45.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Michele Van Hoeck