

THE MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
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(EC-13)

February 10, 2014

Members Present: Lynn Williams (Chair), Kevin Ayotte (Vice-Chair), Diane Blair (University-wide), President Joseph Castro, Kiranjit Dhanjan (ASI), Interim Provost Andrew Hoff, Thomas Holyoke (At-large), Michael Jenkins (At-large), Loretta Kensinger (State-wide), Rebecca Raya-Fernandez (At-large)

Excused Absent: Thomas Holyoke (At-large)

Visitors: Venita Baker, Michael Botwin (Chair, AP&P), Laurent Dejean (Chemistry), Alam Hasson (Chemistry)

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Chair Williams in HML 2108.

1. Agenda.

MSC to add Academic Calendar and Final Grade Deadline as item # 5 per motion at previous meeting.

MSC to approve the Agenda as amended.

2. Minutes of 2/3/14.

MSC to approve the minutes of 2/3/14.

3. Communications and Announcements.

A. Vice President Searches.

1. President Castro stated that the Search Committee for the Vice President for Student Affairs has recommended 3 candidates to him, and final reference checks are now being conducted. President Castro noted that APM 320 is very prescriptive re: search procedures, and he would like to revisit the policy in the future because some of the

policy's constraints have made it difficult to appoint as broad-based a committee as might be desirable. President Castro hopes to make an offer to one of the finalists within a few days.

2. President Castro announced that the Search Committee for the Vice President for University Advancement has been appointed and will meet for the first time this Thursday. AGB, a search firm, will assist with the process.

3. The Search Committee for the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs will begin inviting 4 finalists for on-campus visits within the next few weeks.

B. Campus Pointe.

President Castro announced that the groundbreaking ceremony for the retail center was held today.

C. Student Fees.

Provost Hoff announced that a process to establish two new student fees is under consideration. One would be a student success fee of approximately \$50/year to increase graduation rates and close the achievement gap, resulting in about \$2.2 million for supplemental instruction, course redesign, addressing bottleneck courses, possibly a summer Bridge program; the main part would go to additional faculty where course offerings don't meet needs. The second fee would be an Instructionally Related Activities fee focused on athletics to bring the programs up to the level needed for competitive success, in addition to adding 1-2 new sports. An "alternative consultation process" will be used to gather input from various constituencies; the Campus Fee Advisory Committee will make a recommendation to President Castro, who will then decide whether to increase the fees and by how much.

Discussion ensued.

D. Reorganization of Departments in KSOEHD.

A letter dated February 5, 2014 from Dean Paul Beare (KSOEHD) to the Academic Senate re: Reorganization of Departments has been received.

MSC to place on the next agenda of the Senate Executive Committee

E. Suicide Prevention Workshop.

Senator Raya-Fernandez (At-large) announced that a workshop will be held Feb. 13 from 11am-12pm in Library 2206 and on Feb. 14 from 1-2:30pm. Other events were announced.

F. AP&P to Review APM 220.

Senator Botwin (Chair, AP&P) announced that the Academic Policy & Planning Committee will soon begin reviewing APM 220 Policy on Outcomes-Based Program Review.

G. New Director of Women's Resource Center.

Senator Kensinger (State-wide) announced that a new Director of the campus Women's Resource Center has been appointed.

4. Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry.

Senator Botwin stated that AP&P unanimously recommended approval pending subsequent review by the University Budget Committee. Professors Alam Hasson and Larent Dejean (Chemistry) summarized the rationale for the new program.

Senator Blair (University-wide) asked if the department has adequate faculty to cover the courses in the new program. Dr. Hasson answered yes – they anticipate some students shifting from the existing BA to the BS program plus some new students, but they have several faculty available who are able to teach the courses.

Senator Blair asked if the BS program will require any new labs or other resources. Dr. Hasson answered no.

MSC to refer the program proposal to the University Budget Committee for review.

5. Academic Calendar and Deadline for Final Semester Grades.

Senator Kensinger stated that there are several concerns re: the timing of the deadline for submitting final semester grades.

Senator Botwin stated that approval of the calendar is part of the responsibility of AP&P.

Provost Hoff stated that there are actually two dates, one is the official date associated with faculty workdays and the second (later) is the local campus date by which campus offices need grades to process financial aid and other required reports.

The suggestion was made to invite Dean Nef (Student Affairs) and Senator Botwin to a future meeting for preliminary discussion of the constraints and possible alternatives.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be announced.

An Agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Submitted by:
Kevin J. Ayotte
Vice-Chair
Academic Senate

Approved by:
Lynn Williams
Chair
Academic Senate