FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Zoom Meeting

TUESDAY, March 24, 2020

3:00-4:15 p.m.

Minutes

1. **Call to order**
   - The meeting was called to order at 3:05 pm
2. **Circulate the roll**
   - The role was taken via Zoom participants list (N = 35; including Brian Payne, Kate Hawkins, Tisha Paredes)
   - Senators in attendance: Asundi, Black, Brown, Bulysheva, Carhart, Daniels, Fitzgerald, Gregory, Hall, Hoon, Hsiung, Kosloski, Kuhn, Locke, Lobova, Martin, Morrow, Ouellette, Poutsma, Richels (Secretary), Sachs, Santos (Hassencal representing), Savage, Selover, Sokolowski (Chair), Tench, Tolle, VanDore, Yusuf, Zhu, Zhou, Ziegenfuss
3. **Approval of the Agenda**
   - The Agenda was approved
4. **Approval of the Minutes**
   - Minutes approved as distributed
5. **Chair's Report**
   - Chairman Sokolowski is a member of the Committee looking at academics and research as we make the transition to online classes in response to COVID-19
     - **i.** Committees determining policy
       1. **Issues raised**
          a. Under the impression that committees are making decisions without consulting the people that have to implement them
          b. Restated that faculty need to be consulted PRIOR to policy going into place
          c. Requested a list of who is on the 10 committees creating policy during the crisis
     - **ii.** 200 laptops for students to be distributed
       1. **Issue raised**
          a. Some students have Mac computers vs. PC that will not run necessary lab software so who will determine who receives computers
          b. 24-hours for taking exams
       2. **Explanations to address issues – Chair Sokolowski**
          a. Priority of computer distribution is based on Dean's recommendations by college based on needs of students (e.g., economic need, students graduating this semester)
          b. Students don't necessarily get 24 hours to take an exam. Rather, they have a 24-hour period in which to start and complete an exam in order to allow for flexibility
     - **iii.** Pass/Fail grading structure
       1. **Issues raised**
          a. Policy on P/F option and cutoff for pass is D-
          b. Information needs to be differentiated for graduate versus undergraduate classes
          c. Concern about P/F as counting for prerequisite completion to move to next course
          d. Can students change back and forth from grade to P/F?
          e. Expressed concern regarding P/F for credentialing bodies specifically as it pertains to clinical skills
          f. According to the email distributed last night, students would request P/F through the Registrar's office without consulting the faculty
       2. **Explanations to address the issues (rules of order suspended) - Brian Payne**
          a. For this semester, a P in a prerequisite course will progress students forward to the next course

Respectfully submitted by: Corrin Richels, Secretary, Faculty Senate

b. Students will not be able to arbitrarily change back and forth from regular grade to P/F
c. Faculty need to counsel students against using the P/F option if the students are seeking credentials and licensing where this is not an accepted practice
d. Although students can reach out directly to the Registrar's office and fill out the request form to opt into P/F option, it is up to the faculty to assign the grade

iv. Online infrastructure is holding steady at present

1. Issue raised

a. Expressed the need looking ahead to distribute WiFi sticks and laptops as conditions of employment
b. Expressed concern regarding just being asked for tech needs

2. Explanations to address issues – Chair Sokolowski

a. University committees are looking ahead to solve infrastructure and practical issues arising from the crisis
b. College Deans and Department Chairs were prompted to gather information regarding faculty tech requirements 2 weeks ago

v. Discontinuance of Programs

1. 4 programs identified by SCHEV for discontinuance

a. Programs identified were:
   i. MA applied Sociology; MS in Occupational and Technical Studies
   ii. B.S. in Modeling and Simulation; B.A. in Economics
b. According to BOV policy the programs have gone through Committees A & C and the Executive Committee
c. Executive Committee recommended continuance of all 4 programs. Memos resulting from recommendations will be distributed to the Senate

6. **Action Items**

<u>Committee C (Senator Yusuf)</u>

- **AY19-26-C Revisions to the Faculty Handbook's Graduate Program Director Policy**
  - 2 Additions to handbook – codifying responsibility rather than change to existing policy
    - approving dissertations and theses
    - certifying graduate student completion
  - Committee C recommended approval
  - *Policy passed as submitted*
- **Briefing on Student Opinion Surveys- Senator Lobova (Will continue to next meeting)**
  - Response rates range from 10 to 40% across the university
    - Worst for 100 level courses
  - 2 student representatives (President and Secretary of SGA) only attended first meeting
  - Purpose of the revised survey is to inform faculty pedagogical use ONLY
  - The goal was to make the information actionable by the instructor to improve teaching practices
  - Many surveys were reviewed including the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)
  - The draft has 3 sections
    - Instructor Questions
    - Course Specific Questions
    - Open-ended questions
  - Piloted questions across 4 courses including 384 students, 200, 300, 400 level courses
    - 28.9% response rate
  - Questions can be added to capture different types of course delivery

7. **Adjournment**

- Meeting adjourned at 4:14 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Corrin Richels, Secretary, Faculty Senate