

JSCC Faculty Council Meeting Minutes—December 2nd, 2015

The Faculty Council met Wednesday, December 2nd, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. in room 103 of the Nelms Classroom Building.

Present: Mark Walls, Josh Britt, Carla Simpson, Jennifer Walker, Tim Britt, Dr. Liz Mayo, Melissa Sellers (for Carmen Corder), Dr. Mechel Camp, Vivian Grooms, and Abby Lackey

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Announcements

Council Chair, Abby Lackey made several announcements: (1) John McCommon would be promoting JSCC news and information; faculty should communicate appropriate highlights to him; (2) JSCC plans a scholarship banquet in April, 2016 featuring Oliver North; (3) Darron Billings responded to recent safety concerns and indicated that active shooter training specific to classroom environments was planned for the January in-service. He indicated the training would involve realistic disaster-type drills. Representatives emphasized the need for proper notice and preparation since some on campus could respond to such realism unpredictably.

2. Assessment of Administrators Committee

The Council discussed suggestions it would make to Drs. Blanding and Bailey regarding the organization of the Assessment of Administrators Committee, its procedures, and the nature of the evaluative instrument. The Council agreed no administrators should oversee the evaluative process, and that Angie Brown would be an appropriate person for this overall responsibility. A faculty member should chair and direct the committee's work, the Council felt. The Council discussed broad options for the assessment instrument. It was noted that Sara Cooper-Vonderheide was going to research potential vendors for an assessment tool and clarify what other institutions were doing to evaluate the performance of administrative employees.

Representatives agreed that consistency of process and validity were key issues. Answers and ratings should be clear. (For instance, current confusions about using "0" as a low numerical rating or a non-value response should be resolved). The Council agreed the assessment and distribution of results needs to happen quickly during the last quarter of the academic year, probably in March. Representatives felt a typed comments section was essential for adequately evaluating administrators.

A motion was made and passed to send Dr. Blanding and Dr. Bailey the Council's suggestions for the assessment instrument and for the committee's organization and process.

3. Blue Jeans Statement of Concern

Abby Lackey noted that a statement of concern about difficulties implementing the Blue Jeans distance-ed delivery would be produced this month. This was requested by the Council in its November meeting.

4. Employee Bathrooms

The Council considered the need to reserve bathrooms in faculty office areas for employee use only. It agreed the bathrooms should be identified this way. The Council determined to submit a work order for appropriate signage on bathroom doors.

5. Issues for January/February Meeting

The Council was directed to consider revisions that may be needed to the Faculty Council constitution. Among other matters, concerns about enabling continuity and experience within the council membership may need to be examined. The Council will also consider how Last Day of Attendance (LDA) reporting may not accurately designate unacceptable progress in classes. Other than bad grades, there seems to be no way to identify students who do not pursue classes in “good faith.” Faculty may need to understand better what constitutes “good standing” with some sources of financial aid, including Tennessee Promise.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Mark E. Walls, Secretary

Abby Lackey, Chair