

Faculty Council Meeting 4/11/18

Faculty Council Minutes

Present:

Tony Rafalowski, Sara Youngerman, Melissa Sellers, Becca Rhea, David Hart, Lisa Matlock, Lawrence Gunderson, Mechel Camp, Benjamin Lawrence, Emily Fortner, Claude Bailey, Billy Wesson, Jennifer Reaves, Ben Jeter, Kim Holland, and Brian Kesler.

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 pm in The Kisber Conference Room of McWherter Building. Minutes from February 21, 2018 were read. Proposed changes were recorded to correct typographical errors. Becca Rhea made a motion to accept minutes with proposed changes. Dr. Billy Wesson offered a second of the motion. Motion passed with unanimous approval.

Election of New Officers for 2018/19 School Year

The Chair reminded the Council of the Constitutional bylaws letter B, sections 5, 6, &7 and of the dispute over 2017/18 election before nominations were accepted. 3 groups present in the room were identified: rollers – those who are rolling off after completion of their term, mid-termers – those who are in the middle of their term of service who will return in Fall 2018, and new members – those who have just been elected and will begin their term with the Fall 2018 semester. Rollers do not vote. Midtermers and new members may nominate and vote.

An election of new officers for 2018/19 was held with the following results:

Chairperson - Sara Youngerman

Vice Chairperson Kim Holland

Secretary – Dama Cooley

Announcements

1.1 Council members were asked to encourage their departments to participate in the Faculty and Staff Awards process by nominating for the following awards: Outstanding Faculty from Arts and Sciences, Outstanding Faculty from Professional/Technical, Outstanding Adjunct Faculty, Outstanding Staff Member, and New Horizons award (Faculty with ≤ 3 years). The assigned committee will determine recipients from the nominees.

1.2 eLearn home page will change after the conclusion of the second summer session. All of the function and content will remain in place, but the page will have colorful icons for various courses. This change is coming from D2L and is not optional. Faculty will have time to practice with the new homepage prior to the “go live” date. Dr. Camp stated she would communicate this change to department heads in order for them to share with adjunct faculty.

1.3 E. Faculty numbers have decreased from approximately 129 12 years ago to approximately 94 currently. We also have staff who consistently teach courses. Staff who teach are expected to submit an alternative work schedule to assure that teaching and other work duties do not conflict or overlap. If a staff member is teaching, the time spent during course work is not to take the place of their other job duties. There is a concern that this expectation may not be followed consistently across campus and that the use of staff for teaching is no longer being reserved for extenuating circumstances, as it was originally intended. The following motion was made by E. Fortner with a second by L. Gunderson and unanimous affirmative vote.

Motion: Request clarification on “extenuating circumstances” regarding the JSCC exempt staff with adjunct faculty teaching assignments, and clarification as to why we continue to consistently use staff to teach courses during the work day. Request a response in writing from Dr. Bailey on this issue.”

Old Business

2.1 The Council has presented a list of concerns with the Distance Learning (DL) department to every level of leadership. The result has been the formation of a committee whose purpose is currently unclear to the Council. Some noted that they had been told the committee was formed to relieve the staff shortage in DL by training people in DL technology, while the Council’s desire was that the committee addresses the many previously discussed issues with DL. K. Holland expressed that often times the mission of a committee is unclear and needs to be clearly defined. L. Gunderson agreed and added that an expected length of time for committee work would help to maintain the focus of the committee. The Council recommends that the Executive committee ask Dr. Bailey for a clear and concise mission for the new DL committee and to ask Terry Mullins to report the DL committee’s progress to the Council.

2.2 The following motion was made by Sara Youngerman with a second by M. Sellers and unanimous affirmative vote.

Motion: The Council recommends the creation of the following standing committee: Advising committee – one voting faculty (tenured) representative from each academic division and one Advising Coordinator who shall be non-voting. This will be a standing committee and will be advisory to VPAA and FC. Rationale – To create a committee that will take over the functions of the “navigation task force”, which currently oversees advising initiatives and processes, with the goal of building a more consistent and sustainable advising model and policy.

2.3 The following motion was made by Melissa Sellers on behalf of the subcommittee on bullying, a second by C. Bailey and unanimous affirmative vote.

Motion: The Council recommends the addition of the following statement to the Disciplinary Offenses of the General Regulations on Student Conduct and Disciplinary Sanctions as item (gg): *Harassing or disruptive communication*. Communicating in a manner that is intentionally or recklessly disrespectful, hostile, derogatory, or otherwise offensive to employees or other students. This includes face to face communication or phone encounters as well as posting or sending inappropriate emails, texts, messages, social media postings or letters to other students or staff. In accordance with professional and civil standards, respectful and civil communication is expected of all staff and students at JSCC. If a JSCC student or staff member feels an immediate physical or emotional threat, they should contact the JSCC police or a member of the Student Intervention Team, respectively. The council also recommends that administration review all current policy to ensure compliance with the TBR’s new policies on freedom of speech.

New Business

3.1 End of semester potluck for Faculty Council will be held on 5/2/18 at noon in the Classroom Bldg breakroom.

Lisa Matlock made a motion to adjourn with a second by Becca Rhea. All approved and the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

Respectfully submitted
Dama Cooley, Secretary

Anthony Rafalowski, Chair
