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Senate Minutes

Kutztown University Senate

Spring 4-2-2015

Senate Minutes 4-2-15

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April 2, 2015 – 4:00pm

ACADEMIC FORUM 101

Present: D. Aruscavage, C. Bloh, L. Brandt, K. McCloskey (sub. S. Doll-Myers), L. Frye, J. Gehringer, M. Gober, K. Gupta (sub. M. Maksy), H. Hamlet, E. Hanna, L. Irving, J. Jedwab, D. Johnson, M. Johnston, Y. Kim, A. Kirshman, D. Lea, M. Le Bosse, L. Levine, B. McCree, P. McLoughlin, T. McNally, A. Milevsky, L. Norris, R. Portada, B. Gottschall (sub. K. Prock), M. Radyk, A. Rodriguez, J. Ronan, L. Scappaticci, J. Schlegel, J. Scoboria, M. Sims, P. Walsh Coates, T. Williams, A. Zayaitz

Absent: A. Cordner, F. Cortez Funk, K. Gardi, J. Harasta, R. Kaplan, J. Kremser, S. Mangold, J. Metcalf, A. Morris, J. Quezada, B. Sharkin, C. Vargas

Guests: C. Wells, M. Stevenson, D. Beougher, M. White, R.L. Smith

I. Call to Order

Senate President D. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM.

II. Announcements – D Johnson

D. Johnson welcomed Acting Provost A. Zayaitz and LAS Acting Dean D. Beougher to Senate and congratulated them on their new posts.

Sunday, April 12: students with disabilities will present performances of their stories at an honorary event in the MSU 183 at 5 PM.

III. Approval of the Agenda

D. Johnson suggested amending the agenda to add the Per Credit Tuition Model to New Business. No objections; item added.

IV. Approval of the Minutes from February 5, 2015

M. Sims moved to approve the minutes of the Feb. 5 2015 meeting. K. Gupta seconded. L. Norris noted that “and coaches” should be added after “Temporary faculty” under item VII.C.2. Minutes approved as amended.

V. Old Business

A. Election of Senate VP – M. Sims

M. Sims, Chair of Senate Elections Committee, distributed ballots to vote for Vice-President to complete the remaining year in President Elect J. Schlegel’s term. M. Sims asked for nominations from the floor; none. One candidate on the ballot withdrew their name. J. Ronan elected.

VI. New Business

A. Per Credit Tuition Model – D. Johnson

Developments since the presentation at the February 2015 Senate meeting: The university open forum was scheduled as Senate requested; canceled due to weather. Gov. Wolf has called for a tuition freeze; it is likely the new model would raise tuition. PASSHE is likely to support Wolf. It is not clear whether KU’s proposal will go forward to PASSHE.

Senate Executive body made a motion that Senate strongly recommends the university not go forward this month with a per credit tuition model. Discussion. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Motion to change reporting structure of Student Faculty Review Board & University Conduct Board – J. Schlegel

Senate Executive body moves that the Student Faculty Review Board and University Conduct Board should no longer report to University Senate. These boards do not make policies related to academics. It is recommended that the SFRB and the UCB report to the appropriate staff member such as; the Dean of Students. Motion approved by majority vote.

C. Motion to revise International Affairs Committee Mission & Bylaws – J. Schlegel

Senate Executive body moves that Senate approve International Affairs Committee's Mission and revised By-Laws.

Discussion: Since this is a policy committee that reports to Senate, it has no authority to address curricular matters. These will be addressed with a new advisory board. K. McCloskey: How are boards formed? J. Ronan: by interested parties. C. Wells concurred, citing programs without departments such as; Women and Gender Studies, where interested parties develop and oversee such programs. Motion approved unanimously.

D. Academic Standards & Policies – ACA-036 Course Guides – C. Wells

The policy on course guides has not been updated since 1993. Senate Executive body moved to accept the revision.

L. Norris moved to amend the motion by changing "will" in "course guides/course syllabi will" (section D) to "should." J. Ronan seconded. Motion to amend approved. 1 no; 5 abstentions.

Discussion: L. Norris: This is not a policy revision. It attaches a new policy about requiring specific kinds of content on course guides to a policy revision. The original policy was only about distribution of course guides.

L. Frye: "Syllabus" can't be used; that refers to the officially approved course, not the material given to students, which varies.

P. McLoughlin: Math department unanimously opposes. Faculty often use their own websites instead of KU's D2L; the latter would result in loss of copyright.

L. Norris: Fine Arts department is opposed; mandated "minimal inclusions" violate academic freedom.

L. Norris moved to divide the policy in order to consider the method of distributing course materials separately from "minimal inclusions" on all course guides. K. McCloskey seconded. Motion refined to consider sections A., B., C. and first paragraph of D separately. Motion to divide failed. 12 yes; 13 no.

J. Schlegel: Anthropology/Sociology department opposes to specifying weekly outlines/assignments. Can an administrator download the course guide, come to a class and find that a faculty member is not following what had been posted? What would the consequences be?

T. McNally: what of the intellectual property of course material? Who owns that? C. Wells: Unknown, but the syllabus belongs within the university.

C. Wells, about requiring posting to KU's LMS: the revision is student focused.

L Brandt: as a student, D2L is a very useful platform; a faculty website would also be acceptable.

P. McLouglin: Moved to return the policy revision to committee, and called for a task force to survey the faculty regarding how to improve the policy. L. Brandt seconded. Motion approved. Abstention: B. McCree.

E. Approval of Willingness to Serve Appointments – J. Schlegel

J. Schlegel presented a slate of proposed appointees on university committees. Data was supplied: 91 respondents for 78 committees. Remaining vacancies will be filled in the Fall.

Percentages by college of willingness; acceptance rates

LAS has most difficult challenge attaining appointments by virtue of size but still staff the most positions

70% of all respondents were women.

Motion to approve appointees approved with editorial corrections.

VII. President, Committee, Task Force Reports

A. Senate President's Report – D. Johnson

1. Tickets for graduation: Dean of Students is aware of student complaints that those attending the afternoon ceremony have one less ticket than those in the morning. Usually tickets become available at rehearsal, the Wednesday before graduation.

2. Installation of President Elect Hawkinson: currently planned for September 2016 during the Founders Day celebration, the culmination of the Sesquicentennial. However, Chancellor's office indicated installation usually occurs within 6-12 months of a new president's arrival. Serious consideration is being given to move the installation to April 2016.

3. Senate's next and last meeting for this year will have a full agenda.

4. Possibility of an emergency meeting of Senate, due to potential institutional changes.

B. Senate Vice President's Report – J. Schlegel

No report.

C. Senate Secretary's Report – L. Norris

Senate election results:

Professional Staff: J. Garcia will serve a three year term starting in August. Two other seats remain unfilled; an election will be held in Fall.

At-Large Faculty: K. Clair and A. Vogel were elected from a slate of 9.

D. Student Government Board Report – J. Scoboria

The Per Credit Tuition model is the most important issue of the semester. SGB conducted a student poll. 552 responded; 78% opposed the model.

SGB voted against the model and is drafting a resolution to bring to university governance and even the Board of Governors. Even if this issue is resolved, student voices need to be heard.

D. Johnson asked A. Zayaitz to please inform the Acting President and Trustees of the SGB position. A. Zayaitz agreed.

E. Library Update – M. Stevenson

A consulting firm was hired for study and recommendations to transform the library to align with a 21st century model.

1. online access must increase
2. move away from print materials
3. rely on a user-based approach
4. provide flexible spaces

Actions taken:

1. Ten positions need to be realigned
2. Patron driven acquisition is being put in place
3. Dewey system eliminated: college liaisons weeded collections; the rest to be reclassified under Library of Congress system.
- L. Norris: Previously, faculty were notified when maps were deaccessioned with option to take what was to be discarded. Also faculty have been involved with weeding in the past. Why was something similar not done? M. Stevenson: Working on a tight timeline.

Next steps: align a plan for space usage with operations plan

1. increase study, collaborative and teaching spaces
2. increase spaces for services
3. necessitates reduction of all collections: there will be a weeding plan in place with increased university participation

VIII. As May Arise

D. Johnson: support for advisees who don't know how to register for classes. CASA is a resource; an online tutorial has been planned.

K Gupta: about current list of competencies: a list is available on the General Education web page.

P. McLoughlin: Conference of the PASSHE-MA, a mathematics conference held at KU April 10-11 for state and regional presenters. This year's conference is dedicated to Professor Randy Schaeffer, with honorary award to Professor Emeritus Bill Bateman.

Y. Kim: asked for information on retention rates by department. D. Johnson: requests for information should go through Institutional Research headed by N. Snow.

J. Schlegel: Second 5 K for the Keystone Warriors Saturday April 4, organized by KU's Veterans Services.

IX. Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 5:48 PM

Respectfully submitted:

L. Norris
Secretary, University Senate