Kutztown University

Research Commons at Kutztown University

Spring 2-5-2009

Senate Minutes 2-5-09

Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY
Minutes of the University Senate

Room 223, McFarland Student Union Building
Thursday, February 5, 2009

M. Sanelli called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Present: Andrew Arnold, Javier Cevallos, Kate Clair, James Delle, Camille DeMarco, Samantha Dennis, Dennis Dietrich, William Donner, Lorri Engstrom, Diane Fegely, Sudarshan Fernando, Mitch Freed, Jo Cohen Hamilton, Gregory Hanson, Kathleen Hartman, Ted Hickman (Vice-President), Will Jefferson, Inmi Lee, Joe Lippincott, JoAnn Mackesy, Mark Mahosky, Susan Mangold, Elaine Mara, Robert Martin, John McAndrew, James McNiff, George Muugi, Sylvia Pham, Ilene Prokup, John Riley, Charles Roth, Trucilla Sabatino, Maria Sanelli (President), Steve Schnell, Joo Tan, Carlos Vargas-Aburto, Anke Walz (Secretary), and Barth Yeboah.

Absent: Len Barish, Bobbie Berry, Ed Christian, Todd Folk, James Hall, Keith Logan, Paul Sable, Christopher Sacchi, Rennie Sacco, Norman Sigmond, and Heather Thomas.

Also in Attendance: Daniel Benson, Lisa Frye, Mike Gifford, Emily Klein, Paul Quinn, and Rich Zera.

I.   Announcements

A.   State of the Budget

President Cevallos announced that the State of the Budget Address was given by Governor Ed Rendell yesterday. The 4.25% that was given back from the budget has been restored to the State System. The projections for level funding for the next academic year is for a 2% tuition increase that will still leave a 3 million dollar deficit in the budget. The Governor did mention that there will be no salary freezes on any of the unionized members of the State System or there was no mention of putting employees on a furlough at this time. Another proposal that Governor Rendell is looking into putting in place is to give reduced tuition for any student whose parents make less than $100,000.00 a year for any of the 14 state-owned universities.

B.   IT Changes

President Cevallos announced that a study of the Information Technology Operations of the campus was done during the fall semester by Edutech. They concluded that KU information technology processes were very decentralized. For academic support to work more efficiently, they suggested that KU put all IT services under Academic Affairs Division. The study also revealed duplication of IT work efforts. L. Frye, Chair of the Information Technology Task Force, will give a report later in the meeting about their Action Plan.

J. Riley reminded Senators that this past fall semester, Senate endorsed a pilot study related to SRI effectiveness. He is asking tenured faculty members to volunteer to help conduct surveys in their classes as part of this pilot study. Any faculty member interested, please contact J. Riley directly.

II. Approval of the Agenda

R. Martin moved, J. Cohen Hamilton seconded, to approve the agenda. Motion Passed.

III. Approval of the Minutes

After typos were corrected from last month's minutes, W. Donner made a motion, seconded by E. Mara, to approve the meeting minutes as amended. Motion Passed.

IV. President, Committee and Task Force Reports

A. Senate President's Report

M. Sanelli announced that all the Task Force Committees are working hard and meeting regularly throughout the semester. At this particular time, there are no changes that need to be voted on.

B. Committee on Committees Report

T. Hickman announced that the Strategic Planning & Resource Committee has changed their Mission Statement and Bylaws and would like to ask the Senate for their approval. All Senators should have received an attachment outlining the changes when they received the agenda and past minutes. T. Hickman made a motion, seconded by R. Martin that read:

T*o approve the changes made to the Strategic Planning and Resource Committee Bylaws*.

C. Roth questioned why the Library Director was removed from the composition of this committee. It was brought to his attention that they did not remove the Library Director; they actually made a change to the title of this position so that it reads the Dean of the Library. C. Vargas asked to make a friendly amendment to the Bylaw changes that would actually change the title to this position's proper title, which happens to be the Dean of Library Services.

Motion Passed.

V. Old Business

A. General Education Process Task Force Report

M. Sanelli reported that in December the Senate had approved the General Education Process that the General Education Process Task Force had submitted for approval. After the Senate approval, the document proceeded to APSCUF Representative Council for approval. A few changes were made to the process before being forwarded to the University Curriculum Committee where it was anonymously approved. In order for this Gen Ed Process to move forward, the Senate needs to approve the process with the changes that were made by APSCUF. A motion was made by J. Riley, seconded by S. Schnell that read:

To approve the General Education Process as amended..

Motion Passed, all yea, with one abstention.

The Committee on Committees will be sending out via email as well as a hard copy , a Willingness-to-Serve form to all College Curriculum Committees for all faculty interested in serving on the General Education Task Force. A vote will then be taken and the results will be announced.

The whole university community will also be receiving a letter that is signed by President Cevallos, Paul Quinn, Randy Schaeffer, and Maria Sanelli that will outline the whole General Education Process.

VI.   New Business

A.   IT Task Force Recommendations

L. Frye (Chair) presented the final report of the task force. Back in September 2008 all faculty should have received a Technology Action Plan Summary that outlined the proposed changes that should be made to better accommodate all aspects of the university community. The first step of this recommendation has been completed by the creation of an Academic Technology unit now reporting to Academic Affairs.

The Administrative Systems Support team (systems analysts) is located at several locations throughout campus and they will be pulled together as one unit and a manager will be hired to help support the new ERP Student System.

The Technology Support will be offering expanded hours with a live chat option for faculty who are working from home. The Smart Classroom Support will have expanded hours and a location in each of the academic buildings on campus with proper training for the faculty on all phases of the equipment. The Cable TV infrastructure support will also be moved to Information Technology.

The Edutech Report suggested that the university hire twenty-three new technology positions to help support all facets of Information Technology. With this year's budget downfall, only eleven new positions will be hired.

The Edutech Report suggested that a new Web Site redesign take place since the last version was done back in 2001.

The last recommendation that they gave KU was to create a University Technology Advisory Council that will be an oversight committee that will advise the Council of Trustees. This committee would consist of the Chair of the Academic Technology Committee (which is part of Senate Committee), the chair of the Administrative Computing Council (administration side of ATC), the Vice Provost of Information Technology, and the Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs. M. Sanelli questioned why a University Technology Advisory Council would need to be formed if we already have an Academic Technology Committee here on campus. L. Frye commented that the University Technology Advisory Council would be more of an umbrella for the coordination of all technology across campus and they will not be a highly functioning committee. It was felt that there was a lack of cooperation and lack of vision about technology on campus in the past. After all the changes have been made and in place, President Cevallos felt that the Provost Office will need to take a better look at whether or not we need to continue with an University Technology Advisory Council.

President Cevallos reported that the vendor contract bids for the new ERP Student System will be going out in the next few weeks.

M. Sanelli announced that since the General Education Process passed, there will need to be a Senate Representative (faculty member only) on the task force and she does not want to appoint this person. If any faculty member is interested in serving, please send an email to Dr. Sanelli with your name and a supporting statement by February 10th. On February 11th, she will then send out a ballot to all Senators with the names of faculty willing to serve. Due to a tight timeframe, a motion was made by W. Donner, seconded by A. Arnold that read:

That all University Senators send in their electronic vote via email by Saturday, February 14th, 2009, for the representative on the General Education Task Force.

All were in agreement, Motion Passed.

M. Sanelli wanted to remind all Senators that due to the first week of March being Spring Break, the next Senate meeting will be held the second Thursday, March 12th.

VII.   Adjournment

A. Walz made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by E. Mara. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Signed:

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Dr. Maria Sanelli, President   Dr. Anke Walz, Secretary

2-12-09