

Minutes
Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
May 5, 2009

In attendance: Judy Hughey, Kaleen Knopp, Donita Whitney-Bammerlin, Ellen Urton, Donna Fullmer, Mark Haub, Stacey Warner

- I. Approval of Agenda—unanimous
- II. Approval of Minutes—unanimous
- III. Announcements

(a) Appx V—Provost is scheduling a meeting for mid-May for the affected parties to discuss student grievance procedures and how units of the university relate to each other when amending/adjusting policy.

(Whitney-Bammerlin: friendly suggestion to define the name of the Appx in the agenda, so that we don't have to refer to the UHB or their notes each time)

(b) e-Portfolios: Jamene Brooks-Kieffer and Thomas Bell will come again on May 19th FAC meeting. They were told that we as a committee had questions about the software and its flexibility. Update on their conversations with other units in the university.

(W-B: question on how far-reaching an e-portfolio will be and to whom it would apply.)

- (c) Health Insurance. S&FB committee indicates waiver of 60-day waiting period still pending action by BOR. Current budget crisis means that we could be waiting on this for a loooooonngggg time.

- IV. Disability Support update (Hughey/Urton)--Hughey met with Mike Lynch (VP for Student Aff/Life), Andrea Blair's boss, and spoke of the FAC's concerns regarding the communication of Disability Support Svc information to faculty. Retention was also a theme. Hughey developed a faculty survey (also part of her research) that addresses professional development needs of students with special learning issues (which includes more than students with disabilities). Has questions about what information faculty want and how to deliver it. Questions about retention included. Universal Design for Learning questions included—addressing all learning preferences in your classroom. The survey will go out over the summer and the results will be analyzed by Special Ed counseling and Andrea's office.

(Knopp—is the goal to create a system to inform faculty about students with special learning needs and how to address them in the classroom.)

(W-B—even in an environment where the teacher is perceived as welcoming, students are uncertain about what/how to communicate their “issues” or what kind of help would be required.)

(Hughey—after subsequent communications with Andrea and Mike, the role of the Disability Student Svc was not explained in terms nearly as cut and dried as Andrea had presented them—as access only—but rather encompass the development of the student.)

(Knopp—since we cannot make any changes today; we will await the results of Judy's survey and revisit this topic in the fall. We will also be undergoing a lot of administrative change (new Provost) in the fall and this might provide impetus for change.)

(Hughey—Andrea Blair appears to be willing to engage in the fact-finding mission represented by the survey.)

(Urton recapped the course of events: Andrea Blair came to our meeting; Ellen met with her later to address questions we had and clarify the discussion; Hughey met with Mike and is now on the ball with a survey. Whether or not Ellen wants to continue on the subcommittee is her choice at this point.)

V. Administrative Evaluation Revision (Howard/Knopp/Hsu) Howard submitted B123 revisions to the committee for our consideration.

--the committee reviewed the language change considerations in Howard's document and a memo from Dennis Kuhlman and came to the conclusion that this language should be revisited in the fall.

--if we table this and bring it up for discussion in the summer/early fall then we can get it back on the agenda for Exec in the fall (with new Provost leadership, etc.)

VI. Teaching Evaluation (Schultz/Askey/W-B)

--Amy is waiting for a response from the BOR Acad Aff representative re: assessment policy

--Faculty Senate Executive Committee had questions about evaluating EVERY class (small, study abroad, independent study, etc.)--consensus that we agree that all courses, large or small, should be evaluated

--Amy discussed the language changes with students and they found it acceptable, as well

--the IDEA forum has a class minimum, which should be considered

--vote to move to Exec Committee: unanimous

--Haub asked if there was a way to survey students and document whether or not they had the opportunity to evaluate their instructors, were they satisfied with the evals themselves, or did they not choose to take advantage of the eval process (this can be tabled for a future discussion)

VII. Visit from Fred Fairchild on the budget meetings on campus; tuition increases, flu pandemic, etc. Furlough policy being discussed in FSCOUP and among administrators.

VIII. FAC chair election—Hughey and Knopp have put their names forward as potential co-chairs. Their election was approved unanimously. Thank you and congratulations.