



Minutes for Faculty Senate meeting November 7, 2017

Meeting began at 12:15 PM

Members present: Adam Ekins, Aman Ghebremicael, Angel Luna, Brooke Ayars, Edward Schubert, Ila Peterson, Kathleen Turpin, Shelly Sizemore, Laura Alexander, Luis Martinez, Martha Martinez, Matthew Smith, Maureen Garrett, Paul Koblas, Steven Lund and William Blomquist.

A. ROLL

B. October 2017 minutes approved

C. OLD BUSINESS

1. DC job description

a. Max equated load: Senate voted to let administration decide.

2. Athletics: The departments favored pursuing the fact-finding mission except Math. Luis Martinez volunteered to be on the committee. General agreement that it would be helpful to have someone on the committee who is versed in accounting, but there were no recommendations for a specific person.

3. Set-up mid-day open block of classes: Still no consensus on this. It was suggested that we find the time of least disruption by investigating whether there is a particular time each day that is least active for classes. It also was recommended that we survey students and faculty on this issue. We were reminded that if faculty members do not find a good way to make sure we can conduct the business of the college within the work week, then the administration might add Fridays back into the weekly schedule.

4. Academic freedom procedure 625.1: Put the proposed revision through to Linda Elliot-Nelson after the word "instructional" is removed.

D. NEW BUSINESS

1. Structure of President's Council: The faculty need a voice at the Dean level to provide information on the student/classroom perspective of instruction. The President's Council is a very large body, composed mainly of professional administrators and administrators, who are making decisions directly affecting instruction. Is the presence of the DGB representative adequate or do we need more faculty voices, perhaps the DC? Would it be more effective to add a faculty member to the much smaller President's Cabinet, possibly the President of the Faculty Senate?
2. Re-establishment of Dean of Instruction position: It is important to separate instructional issues from administration issues while ensuring clear job descriptions and delineation of powers. To achieve this should we re-establish the Dean of Instruction position, renamed as Dean of Academics in keeping with accepted practice in higher education. This structure would be complemented by giving the Dean of Career & Technology an appropriate amount of authority commensurate with the Dean of Academics.
3. Week of Thanksgiving: It is challenging to get students to attend classes during Thanksgiving week, specifically on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving. We may want to extend the Thanksgiving holiday to include the Wednesday.

E. ADJOURNMENT