
Faculty Senate

March 14, 2019

Mulder Hall, Room 302

Present: Melissa Whitley, Richard Elder, Christof Stumpf, Melissa Parks, Kent Lachney, Mary Kay Sunderhaus, Prakash Ghimire, Jennifer Innerarity

Absent: Chris Stacey, Michelle Riggs, Missy LaBorde

Guest: Dr. Rowan

Meeting called to order 2:34 p.m.

Minutes: R Elder made a motion to accept the minutes; K Lachney seconded. It passed 8-0-0.

M Whitley advised the President's Report was not prepared. She then noted that PS 265 (smoking in specific areas) had been deleted since it no longer applied to campus. She also mentioned that all of the recently approved minutes had been added to Faculty Senate website.

Dr. Rowan expressed approval of those who had participated in the recent Humanities Conference and the Honors Convocation. He noted that the Faculty Senate meeting on April 11 would need to be moved to another location, because the Education Department would be holding meetings in Mulder 302 for their certification that week.

He explained that Adam Johnson had asked him about the progress of the excused absence policy for university events. M Whitley noted that the Admissions and Standards Committee was supposed to be meeting one more time to discuss this policy and send in the final version. R Elder advised that recommendation for the acceptance of the excuse was up to the professor and that specific faculty may have to issue class policies to address absences in certain circumstances (like labs). K Lachney mentioned that the tennis coach, Melinda Descant, had come up with a form that was useful for her players' absences.

Dr. Rowan noted that the ad hoc committee for the revision of PS 2020 was moving along and that he was pleased with the progress made so far. He talked about possibly combining Scholar Day and the Humanities Conference. He also suggested the possibility of a day where academic departments, student organizations, etc. could all set up displays on campus and have everyone attend, even if it meant releasing students from class. K Lachney thought that it was a great idea for interdisciplinary involvement and interaction. C Stumpf noted that the Board of Regents might consider the loss of class time problematic. M Sunderhaus advised that their nursing students were already losing many of their days already because of holidays and weather events.

R Elder commented that the Moodle banners had crashed with the implementation of the new website, while M Whitley noted that some of the weblinks of the website do not work at all. Dr. Rowan mentioned that eventually each faculty member could have his/her own webpage. C

Stumpf advised that not having a webpage makes it harder for anyone, especially those off-campus, to contact a faculty member. Dr. Rowan stated that if anyone had problems with the webpage that those correction issues were to go through the Vice-Chancellor's Office.

M Whitley presented the C&C minutes. After review of the minutes by those present, R Elder made a motion for them to be approved. It passed 8-0-0.

C Stumpf mentioned that Leesia Marshall, a member of the Improvement of Instruction Committee, had not yet been contacted about meeting for standardizing student evaluations. M Whitley stated we need an updated version and that a reminder would be sent to the Improvement of Instruction Committee for them to meet and regarding this.

M Whitley brought up policy updates. After reviewing the policy statements, it was discovered that effective dates ranged from 2003 through 2018. Some more recently reviewed like Distance Education (P.S. 274), which had been last updated in 2013, needed to be revised because of the numerous online degrees now being offered. Dr. Rowan noted two points about this. One was that the policy statements needed to be updated on a regular basis, while his other point stressed that faculty needed to be involved in the process. R Elder mentioned that it would be appropriate if other departments like Human Resources were also included in the review, noting how they could help with policy updates covering topics like persons with disabilities. It was discussed how there were 36 listed policies and that 12 per year could be reviewed by dispersing them to the applicable committees.

Policy statements last updated in 2003 included the following:

- 206 (Student Class Attendance)
- 208 (Guidelines for Conducting Off-Campus Offerings)
- 213 (Professional Ethics)
- 223 (Maternity Leave)
- 230 (Policy for Persons with Disabilities)
- 243 (Survey Administration)

A policy review list for the next 3 years was developed; it is included the following:

SP 2019 (all of these are either currently being worked on or have been updated).

202	209
206	211
207	252

FA 2019

201	230
205	242
208	243
213	274
223	

SP 2020

224	228
225	232
227	237

FA 2020

218	236
231	240
235	246

SP 2021 (and any others remaining)

245	280
249	281
268	

It was mentioned that PS 269 (Policy Review) could be updated within the rotation was well.

R Elder suggested that an ad hoc committee could review all the policies to see if any of them overlapped and could be combined before distributing them for updates. Everyone agreed. M Whitley noted that the committee would meet in the summer (possibly July). M Whitley, M Parks, C Stumpf, and M Sunderhaus agreed to be on this committee. M Whitley advised that she would email all FS members when they met in case any of the other members would like to attend.

M Sunderhaus mentioned that she had emailed the department heads of PSYC, HIPS, MAPS, and NURS to remind them about committee rotations and new representatives. She noted that only Mary Treuting had contacted her back and told her that she was looking into it; she had not heard back from any of the other department heads. M Whitley noted that we needed productive members on all of the committees.

Meeting adjourned 3:57 p.m.