

MINUTES
Meeting of the Faculty Senate – March 8, 2010

We were called to order at 12:20 p.m.

PRESENT: Senators, Balco, Blett, Decker, DiChiara, Fonte, Gray, Hansen, Lashgari, Lewis, Machuga, Mellodge, Pedro, Pence, Poggio, Shepela, Tetel, Weinholtz, Wetherbee

Also, Maria Marques, Casey Bailey, Matt Wyman

ABSENT:

Canedy, Carey, Hill, McCloskey, Rosiene, Russell, Sekou, Scribner, Siegel, Woodard, Zimmerman

Note: Our condolence to Peter Woodard on the loss of his Father.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

We approved the Minutes from February with the following changes: Professor Pence's name to be corrected, and approval of minutes were from January, not from February. Also, Kathy McCloskey was present on both day and is listed as absent.

GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER VOTE

Ballot listing nine candidates for filling one position in the Grievance Committee. The position was left open by the withdrawal of Senator Ellen Carey. The position is effective until after the October 2010 Senate meeting. Ballots were distributed, votes were recorded. The majority of votes went to Katherine Black, A&S Psychology.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ADMINISTRATION LIAISON--No report due to Chair's absence.

BLT – The committee continues its work with scheduled meetings.

CURRICULUM

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee report was submitted. Discussion on Hartt Statistical Procedures graduate level course being the same as Undergraduate Course Math 114. The Curriculum committee is the only committee that looks at overlap. They have asked for communication between Hartt and A&S. Also, Barney BAR 270 course name is to be changed to Cooperative Education. The entire Curriculum committee report was approved.

FACULTY AFFAIRS—no report.

DEVELOPMENT

Ed Gray is working on a meeting with education and training in web management for the new website for those designing college, department and program websites.

ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY

The Chair reported that Norm Young, Executive Director of Facilities has acquired meters that can be hooked up to existing equipment saving time and money in setting up the fall, 2010 project planned for students to compete to reduce their dorm's use of energy. There will be need for more equipment and expenditures as the program expands to other dorms in the future. She also reported that the competition logo design for t-shirts is underway with a student's participation that will continue after she graduates in May.

Discussions are also being held about other incentives for sustainability activities such as credits for community service to get students to help during the last week of the semester when students move out for the "Stash it! Don't Trash It" program. The Chair clarified that the President's Sustainability Commission is different from the Faculty Senate's Environment & Sustainability Committee, as they handle grants and funds. There is a need to coordinate both committees.

The committee is meeting with Aramark next week to try to clarify what Aramark is already doing for sustainability efforts and prioritize what can be done to become more .

The Senators and the student representatives from SGA present discussed the plan to have a pizza party midterm and t-shirts awarded at the end of the semester as the awards to the dorm that wins the competition of saving the most energy in the fall competition. There was agreement that this was too minimal a reward system to create the culture change the competition is designed to effect.

Recognition should be at shorter intervals, visual, and more substantive.

Resources for funding were suggested from corporate sponsorships such as Bank of America, Walmart, that have programs that support area activities.

FACULTY DIVERSITY

The Chair handed out recommendations for prescriptive measures to increase diversity in the faculty, some of which had been taken out of the tool kit, to be included in the Faculty Search Policies and Procedures manual.

There was extensive discussion by Senators on what makes a difference in increasing diversity in the hiring process. It was suggested that additional funds to support efforts to increase the diversity of the applicant pool would be more effective than using such funds to bring more candidates to campus. The Committee was asked to revise some of the wording of the proposals. If these prescriptive measures are adopted by the University, the Tool Kit would then become the recommended measures to help search committees meet the requirements. There was a consensus that the ideal would be to have a diversity officer.

The Senate adjourned at 1:39 P.M.

MINUTES

Meeting of the Faculty Senate – March 11, 2010

We were called to order at 12:20 p.m.

PRESENT

Senators Blett, Fonte, Gray, Hansen, Hill, Lei, Machuga, McCloskey, Mellodge, Pence, Poggio, Rosiene, Scribner, Sekou, Shepela, Tetel

ABSENT:

Senators Balco, Blett, Canedy, Carey, Decker, DiChiara, Lashgari, Lewis, Moslehpour, Pedro, Russell, Siegel, Weinholtz, Wetherbee

Also, Maria Marques

The Chair thanked the Senators for being present on this the last day before spring break. She quoted the Provost on how hard this faculty works and seconded the comment.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

1) The President will keep the Faculty Senate, Exec, and other groups informed as the budget takes form for next year. At this point all vice presidents have presented recommendations for their budget reductions.

2) Answering a question brought up at Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting : How much did the hosting of the American East Men and Women's Basketball Championship cost the University? The visibility, including visiting academics gave us recognition. A \$200,000 guarantee had been made to the Conference by the University. Our revenue was \$260,000. The 60,000 is now split with the conference, with our portion covering costs. For example, at the suggestion of SGA, students were offered \$20 to move their cars from M lot. Only 15 cars had to be towed.

3. The committee on the Status of Women is made up of 15 staff and faculty and has met once. They will meet again after spring break. At the first meeting people were open in sharing their frustrations and concerns regarding barriers to women feeling welcome and supported. The President is hoping the outcome will be a report that will create action. He noted that Faculty Policy and MAPP issues would have to be considered.

Senators asked for the President's input in issues of diversity in faculty. He shared his experience with the Board of Regents saying that in the last 12 years he has helped to move the minority representation to a more equitable distribution. Now, out of 55 regents there are 22-24 women; 20 alumni; and 8-11 people of color.

Discussion included how our diversity numbers are inflated by counting international faculty members who are not citizens or permanent residents.

The issue of accountability for both the process and the results of faculty searches was raised, and left unresolved.

Hartt senators explained their system for creating a pool for student admissions and their concern that they are not getting the “best deal” and at the same time missing minority students they might have been able to recruit. President Harrison will discuss this with the Dean at their next meeting. He is also looking at rolling admissions to evaluate whether it still makes sense for us.

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Although the Chair of the Committee is away, an attachment was included in the package for the Senators describing the new law that explains when students must be notified of the books necessary for a class. One Senator commented that Follet Bookstore has the listing of books on the web, but does not give the ISBN number, which makes it hard for students to order from other sources. Senators were encouraged to pass on ideas to the Chair of the Committee, Paul Siegel...psiegel@hartford.edu

Faculty Senate Chair made a plea to the Student Affairs Committee to look into how sexual assault cases are handled at the University of Hartford.

There being no other business, the Senate adjourned at 1:39 P.M. The next meeting is scheduled for April 8 and 13.