

Western Oregon University
Faculty Senate
Minutes
October 8th, 2013

- I) Call to Order: 3:31
- II) Call of roll (by circulation of sign-in sheet)
In Attendance: David Foster, Stephanie Hoover, Kevin Malkewitz, Scot Morse, Michael Freeman, Michael Phillips, Kevin Helppie, Claire Ferraris, Patricia Gimenez, Cornelia Paraskevas, Thomas Rand, Erin Baumgartner (for Michael Baltzley), Breeann Flesch, Rahim Kazerouni, Kristin Latham, Terry Gingerich, Kim Jensen, Tighe Scott, Doris Cancel-Tirado, Bob Hautala, Edwin Cancel, Mickey Pardew, Rachel Harrington, Tracy Smiles, Dana Ulveland, Camila Gabaldon (for Robert Monge)
- III) Correction to and approval of minutes:
 - a) Seeing none, moved to approve
 - i) Approved
- IV) Institutional Reports:
 - a) Thaddeus Shannon, Faculty Senate President
 - i) Academic Excellence day is enthusiastically endorsed.
 - ii) Efforts made to streamline the curriculum approval process.
 - (1) Minimize the amount of faculty members who have to review the process and number of committees to which materials must be sent.
 - (2) Opportunities to examine faculty priorities within current academic environment. And collect feedback for the President.
 - iii) Certificates in the senate process.
 - (1) What do certificates mean and process to put them in place?
 - iv) Credit for prior learning.
 - (1) This is a mandate from the state.
 - b) Mark Weiss, University President
 - i) Governance changes to OUS are major issue of interest
 - (1) If not there is a link on his website that explains the changes.
 - ii) There was meetings about what the business plan will look like.
 - (1) A system will be set in place to encourage feedback and develop a questionnaire.
 - Q: Will it include info about perceived pros and cons?
 - A: Yes
 - iii) Enrollment:
 - (1) Overall a little more than 2% down. For credit enrollment is 2.9% down.
 - (2) The freshman class in about 150 (or 15%) students down.
 - (3) With a greater amount of people graduating then enrolling we will start to have problems.
 - (4) Participation from the faculty is key.
 - (a) This should be a natural extension of the personal connection faculty already make with students in their departments.
 - (i) Phone calls to incoming students to answer questions is a recommended next step.
 - (5) We need to solve real problems faster and in the appropriate way.

- (a) One of the ways to get non-traditional students or low income students is to focus on creating online courses or examine other delivery options, nights and weekends could be possible.
- iv) Question:
 - (1) Does OUS own rights to intellectual property? (pertaining to creating online courses)
 - (a) The entity that pays the person who creates owns it. No known case of a university suing a faculty member over it.
 - (b) Both the faculty member and the university can and should have a copy of the material.
 - (c) Material can be passed around the department and other faculty members but cannot be given to other schools.
 - (d) The University and the faculty have a “gentleman’s” agreement when it comes to online courses. Even if it is cheaper to have an adjunct teach your online class, nothing will be taken from you and given to someone else.
 - (e) Current intellectual property rights are governed by OARS, we can’t make policies that violate a higher administrative rule.
- c) Stephen Scheck, Vice President of Academic Affairs
 - i) The breakup of the OUS system has given WOU the chance to find its place in Oregon.
 - ii) We are down a lot this year in terms of freshman.
 - iii) There is an increase on Out of State and Transfer students, but we cannot rely on those increases to account for the missing freshman.
 - iv) What can we do to increase enrollment?
 - (1) Take a look at the catalogue and the website and see what promotions we are putting out there for potential students.
 - (2) Take a look at your individual department and make sure it is up to date and enticing to students.
 - (3) We need to have a contemporary culture
 - v) The provost council no longer exists as of June 30, 2014; the HECC process to get programs through is still an unknown and the HECC will include all 17 Community colleges.
 - vi) Programs looking at new degrees should move quickly and efficiently
 - (1) Get new programs done efficiently.
 - (2) The goal may not be unanimous approval in Senate.
 - (3) New programs need to be approved by President Weiss, then will be passed to the provost council.
 - (4) The goal is to get the programs through this year.
 - (5) If we can do this, you have the option of having those programs next fall.
 - (6) If not it could take longer to get off the ground.
 - vii) North West Commission Report
 - (1) Two observations.
 - (a) 3 published learning outcomes
 - (b) Does not have outlook on general learning classes (LACC)
 - (i) Figure out how to look at general education.
 - (ii) Rewrite the catalogue and website to be current and enticing.
 - viii) You should get any new degree plans to officers by Feb.

- (1) The catalogue will be out but the website can be changed.
- ix) Do you have a clear thought of what needs to go through our current catalogue changing process?
 - (1) Faculty control curriculum.
 - (2) This gives a lot of control to the faculty on what is said.
 - (3) Make sure that the catalogue is clear and easy to look at.
- V) Old Business
 - a) NSM Geographical Science Minor (Steve Taylor)
 - i) Motion to approve:
 - (1) Motion passed
 - b) Graduate Studies Committee policy change: GRE scoring (Kimberly Jensen)
 - i) Below 3.0 students will be asked to take the GRE program.
 - ii) Motion to approve:
 - (1) Motion passed
 - c) ARC. Math/CS graduation requirements: Mathematics graduation requirement proposed changes (Scott Beaver)
 - i) 11 or 12 credit requirement, because classes are 3 or 4 credits.
 - ii) Motion to approve:
 - (1) Motion passed
- VI) New Business:
- a) None
- VII) Announcements:
 - a) Certificates are high on the agenda with the ARC, there is still some confusion about the process and we need to have very clear policies
 - i) Q: Some proposals have been in the queue for a year or more- is this going to help them move forward ?
 - ii) A: Some proposals we don't yet have the criteria for judging them, and we don't have a good answer for registrar's office on how to place programs.
 - iii) Q: Are standards or criteria set by disciplines and discipline specific or are we looking for U-wide criteria?
 - iv) A: I think we're looking for some basic minimum criteria for what a certificate is. We need the basic foundation to be able to do them.
 - v) Q: A practical question – if VPAA needs materials by Feb to get thru current OUS structure, when would they have to clear curriculum committee?
 - vi) If we can get things in Feb I think it's a better shot, so pass Faculty Senate by second February meeting, which would mean we would need it at curriculum committee by the January meeting.
 - vii) Q: Both of our certificates have been through OUS approval system, but there was confusion on how the registrar can track them, couldn't we just expedite them if they are already approved at the OUS level?
 - viii) A: Right now registrar doesn't even know what to print on transcript. To really operationalize this we need to have registrar up to date on what a certificate means. If we can solve this then we can move forward. if we have a campus compact on what a certificate is, we can solve the problem.

VIII) Adjourned 4:45pm