Faculty Council Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2014


Guests: Beth Manning and David Betts from Human Resources, and Associate Provost Vahid Lotfi

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:35pm. The Minutes of October 8, 2014 were approved as written. One item was added to the agenda: Vahid Lotfi will join the meeting at 3:30 pm to respond to questions about Curriculog.

2. T. Wrobel gave the AAAC report. AAAC had discussed the same HR issues that had been presented at Faculty Council. They also discussed the request to evaluate Curriculog software. The question was raised as to which Governing Faculty committee was most appropriate to provide substantive feedback about new computer software that serves the campus such as Curriculog. It was suggested that the Technology Committee review this proposal.

C. Pearson reported that CAC/BPC met on Monday and discussed the Chancellor’s plan to hold several Town Hall meetings to prioritize components of the Strategic Plan and facilitate implementation. One of two dates has been scheduled: Monday, November 10th from 5 to 8 pm. A “save the date” will be sent out. The intent of the Town Hall meetings is to inform the faculty about the Strategic Planning process. A. Lutzker will meet with AAAC in his capacity of Chair of CAC/BPC to discuss budget.

3. There was a brief discussion about the October 13th lunch with Chancellor Borrego. She indicated that UM-AA is interested in UM-Flint’s graduation rates and that she felt that data on UM-Flint’s student retention rates were not readily available. It was noted that there was some clarification of the “Chief of Staff” roles and responsibilities, and that the Chancellor would continue to meet with Faculty Council.

4. Guests Beth Manning and David Betts joined the meeting to present responses to questions that had been raised in the October 8, 2014 meeting. It was suggested that a brief presentation be made to the faculty on the HR policies and procedures related to handling complaints against faculty. David Betts’ Director, Anthony Walesby, will be asked to address the faculty.

Guests brought multiple handouts regarding processes for Complainants and Respondents. It was clarified that student to student complaints regarding sexual misconduct would be handled in the same manner, and that Student Affairs would determine the penalty, if one is appropriate, at the end of the investigation. It was also clarified that sexual misconduct complaints and discrimination complaints are kept as separate records and a different administrative entity determines the penalty, although the investigative process is the same. In the case of a faculty member, the Dean of the unit determines the penalty. The Department Director decides the penalty for a Departmental staff member, and the Office of Student Affairs determines the penalty for a student.

It was decided that it is important for faculty to understand the process related to complaints and the adjudication process. The investigation is intended to be a neutral process, and is intended to
provide due process. In response to a question about a possible appeal, only the penalty can be appealed, not the investigative report.

4a. V. Lotfi joined the meeting. He described Curriculog as a partnership between ITS and Student Services. He felt that there was little duplication with existing software and he agreed that requesting a review by the Technology Committee was appropriate.

5. There will be a Governing Faculty meeting on November 5th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm in the Kiva. Mr. Walesby will present (if available) on issues related to Title IX and will be asked to focus on the main points that faculty need to know, and what impact this policy has on students.

6. A review of the membership of several Governing Faculty committee replacements for Fall 2014 and Winter 2015 were reviewed. The following nominations for Standing Committees of the Faculty were approved: V. Prygoski, Winter 2015, Senate Assembly; Jeff Kupperman, Committee on Extended Learning and Service. L. Alexander and S. Selig will send out a special ballot which will nominate Matt Wyneken for the SEHS seat on the Student Concerns Committee (Winter 2015-Winter 2016) and Suzy Knezek for the SEHS seat on the Scholarships, Awards and Special Events Committee (Fall 2014 – Winter 2017).

7. Faculty Council asked Alexander to request that Krista Hansen and Stacy Lee present Curriculog proposal to the Technology Committee, if they had not done so already. Faculty Council decided not to partner with AAUP on faculty development workshops.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00pm.

Submitted by Suzanne Selig, Faculty Council Chair-Elect/Secretary