

Academic Assembly
February 6, 2012
2:05-3:35pm, STCN 210
MINUTES

Present: David Arnesen, Brenda Broussard, Mary Rose Bumpus, Carol Wolfe Clay, Isiaah Crawford, Karen Feldt, Paul Fontana, Terry Foster, Sonora Jha, Tina Johnson, William Kangas, Chuck Lawrence, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Jacquelyn Miller, Rob Rutherford, Frank Shih (for Chris Stipe), Kristen Shuyler, John Strait, Jeremy Stringer, Eric Sype (for Alanna Welsh), John Weaver.

Excused: Chris Stipe, Alanna Welsh.

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes.

- I. AcA Minutes from 1-23-12 approved with no abstentions.
- II. Ombudsperson
 - A. Mary Peterson (University Counsel) and Jerry Huffman (HR) will attend the March 26 meeting to understand as carefully as possible what the hopes and aspirations are for this position.
- III. Update on Faculty Technology Committee/Angel Transition Committee (*Guest: Randy Horton*)
 - A. Conducted a needs analysis during fall quarter.
 - B. Now in evaluation stage.
 1. Usability feedback from faculty, staff, and students.
 2. Contacting references for each vendor.
 - C. Process for developing the recommendation to AcA has changed.
 1. The original process was for FTC to bring all information to AcA, then develop a recommendation with first choice to fourth choice to submit to the Provost, who would work with upper administration to make the final purchase decision.
 2. Instead, CIO Chuck Porter has recommended to set up a Steering Committee including:
 - a. AcA member and/or FTC/ATC member
 - b. Provost office representative
 - c. University Council representative
 - d. CIO
 - e. Other individuals from key positions
 3. The Steering Committee would provide expertise across campus.
 - a. Intellectual property and negotiating the terms of contract.
 - b. Integration of system and ability to work with all other (approx. 12) hardware and software systems on campus.
 - D. Status of Recommendation
 1. Clear feedback that two of the four systems would meet our needs strongly and one would not.

- a. The FTC will put forward their recommendation from a teaching perspective.
 - b. The administration recognizes and prioritizes the educational mission as the strongest criteria to be making the decision.
- E. Issues Raised by AcA
1. Process for Recommendation
 - a. Ultimately, the request will go from the Steering Committee, to the President, to the Board of Trustees.
 - b. Chuck Porter will chair the Steering Committee.
 - c. The AcA representative will be Rich LeBlanc from FTC.
 2. Both of the companies the FTC like are fairly compatible with all of our current technology. The decision will ultimately be do we want to get the more expensive system that is above and beyond, or so we want to get the one that is less expensive and has a steeper learning curve for faculty?
 3. The first users of the new LMS will be the instructors in the new Core.
 - a. Provide a set of models suggesting interesting ways to use the LMS.
 - b. Create student interest and engagement and simplify faculty work.
 - c. Facilitate data collection.
 4. There will be a strong and thorough implementation plan to cover the faculty learning curve.
 5. There are bids in place, but they are rough estimates. There is still plenty of work to be done in working out the cost of the contract/support/transition, etc.
 6. The two candidates that seem strong across all constituencies each have a cloud-hosted option. One has only a cloud-hosted, the other has self- and cloud-hosted options.
 7. If the Steering Committee cannot reach a decision, how is faculty represented adequately?
 - a. We will not go forward with an LMS that does not support faculty in the way that they need.
 - b. Sufficient budget marker to cover any of the four systems on the list.
 8. Regular AcA updates from FTC/ATC and Steering Committee during the rest of this quarter and spring. Chuck Porter will attend a future meeting.
 9. Perhaps hold a roundtable to facilitate conversation across campus about ideas surrounding distance learning.

IV. Termination of Organizational Systems Renewal (OSR)

- A. The OSR program came to SU in 2005 and is based in A&S.
 1. Brought into the university as a standing program wholesale and never went through a review prior to instatement.
 2. SU did not have control over the curriculum or pedagogical approach.
- B. Several years ago, the Program Review Committee raised major concerns about the OSR program.
 1. Little or no scholarship.
 2. Faculty were part time and did not have to fulfill many of the duties of other SU faculty.

- C. PRC and AcA recommendation to terminate the OSR program was submitted to the Provost.
 - 1. Over several years, OSR made efforts to improve and change, but these efforts were not successful.
- D. SU has decided to terminate program, ending June 2013.
 - 1. Allows those students who are presently in the program to complete the degree with an SU degree.
 - 2. Allows OSR to determine if it wants to enroll another cohort of students, but those students would not secure an SU degree.
 - 3. The program has the opportunity to be freestanding or develop affiliation with another institution.

V. AJCU Draft

- A. Over the last few years, the president of the AJCU indicated how they thought it would be helpful if there was a general organizing statement of the academic impact of a Jesuit, Catholic education.
 - 1. The draft is the result of work by chief academic officers across AJCU about the Jesuit characteristics of undergraduate programs.
 - 2. Now need feedback from faculty for a cohesive suggestion from SU.
- B. There will be a memo from John Strait asking all faculty to review the draft and provide as much anonymous feedback as possible.
 - 1. Information will include the membership of the draft committee and their host institutions.
 - 2. Memo will have directions for online submission.

VI. Nomination of AcA Member to NWCCU Accreditation Committee

- A. The AcA voice is important in the report itself and in the accreditation process.
- B. The time commitment is one or two times per month and will continue through Spring 2013.
- C. John Strait will designate and email someone, preferably a tenured member of AcA.

VII. Announcements

- A. GSC Interdisciplinary Career event
 - 1. Focus on government and non-profit.
 - 2. Employers are interested in speaking with faculty.
- B. Feedback about healthcare and retirement on next agenda.
- C. Faculty lounge feedback on upcoming agenda.
- D. CFO Interviews
 - 1. Three interviews complete.
 - 2. Fourth is taking place this Friday.
- E. VP for External Affairs Interviews
 - 1. Important to attend fora.
- F. Faculty Titles Document
 - 1. Still a working document.
 - 2. The goal is for the next draft of the faculty handbook to incorporate the Faculty Titles document.