

Academic Assembly
November 14, 2011
2:05-3:35pm, STCN 130
MINUTES

Present: David Arnesen, Brenda Broussard, Mary Rose Bumpus, Carol Wolfe Clay, Isiaah Crawford, Karen Feldt, Terry Foster, Tina Johnson, William Kangas, Andy Kim, Kristi Lee, Michael Matriotti, Sean McDowell, Rob Rutherford, Kristen Shuyler, Chris Stipe, John Strait, Jeremy Stringer, John Weaver, Alanna Welsh, Jason Wirth.

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes.

I. Review of 10-31-11 Minutes

- a. (V. A. 2) is actually not part of the proposal. Not every member on the Graduate Council is from AcA. Change to read: Council consists of at least one duly elected AcA member who teaches graduate programs plus others appointed by the AcA.
- b. Minutes adopted as revised.

II. Mathematics Program Review (*Guests: Mike Quinn and Jeff Boersema*)

- a. Faculty Issues
 - i. Approximately 50 percent of classes are taught by adjuncts. Considering Core classes, more than 50 percent. Many full time adjuncts, provides some stability and control. Goal to lower this percentage (Strategic plan calls for core classes to be taught by 20-30 percent of adjuncts.)
 - ii. Currently have 13 tenure track faculty. Hiring one tenure track faculty and one non-tenure track.
 - iii. Convert two or three adjuncts to lecturers.
- b. Advising Issues
 - i. Need better coordination with Albers to assess calculus classes.
 - ii. Assessment cycle includes having conversations with people in Albers and other colleges that math serves.
 - iii. Issues with advising (option of Math 130 versus Math 134-135) – affects graduate school business majors.
 - iv. Perhaps develop dialogue of math advisors talking directly with business advisors.
- c. Number of Majors
 - i. Interested in maintaining and increasing a healthy number of math majors. Number of majors has increased over the last few years.
- d. Discussion of Mathematics program review memo
 - i. Discussion of adding a recommendation for the department to place more emphasis on coordination with the business school. Cannot specify Albers without addressing other schools/colleges. May want to take a more collegial, informal way to suggest communication between deans, not in writing.
 - ii. Discussion of adding a recommendation to request a report from the chair about reducing the number of base faculty teaching core courses.
 - iii. Final Friendly Amendment: The department is encouraged to develop a dialogue with programs other than the math department (such as Albers) that rely on mathematics courses. Amendment voted on and approved.

- iv. Amended memo voted on and approved to be forwarded to the Provost.
- e. Provost Update on Faculty
 - i. 77 percent (by student credit hours) of courses taught at SU are taught by full time faculty members, including full time non-tenure track. 45-46 percent taught by full time tenure track faculty.
 - ii. Goal is for more full time tenure track faculty within the Core.
 - iii. Schools and colleges are exploring what percentage works for them.

III. Ombudsperson

- a. Reiteration of Vote for Ombudsperson
 - i. 4-5 years ago the ombudsperson office was approved by AcA. Last year, AcA also voted for the creation of an ombudsperson office.
 - ii. No budgetary support in the past; trying to push this forward again.
 - iii. Position description was drafted by Mary Peterson and John Eshelman.
 - iv. Office would handle conflicts, grievances, tenure process concerns, racial and/or gender discrimination, sexual harassment, issues with administration.
 - v. Staff would be included.
 - vi. Envisioned as a half time position to start and then expand as necessary.
- b. Provost Response
 - i. The reason that it has not been put forward by the office of the Provost is primarily budgetary. All of the issues that the ombudsperson would address are already covered by the faculty handbook, policy, structures in place, etc.
 - ii. The type of confidential database that would be needed, the private office, the separate administrative assistant, the outside counsel on retainer to advise would all be very expensive.
 - iii. Must follow best practice, especially in this type of confidential issues.
 - iv. Several of our peer institutions do have the office, but typically at larger schools.
- c. Next meeting: executive session and vote on ombudsperson.
- d. Discussion of sharing dispute resolution with other like minded universities (PLU, UPS, etc.) has been discussed in the past. The expansion of HR has tried to address some of these issues. Jerry Huffman can address this further.

IV. Faculty Technology Committee

- a. Continuing members
 - i. S&E – Rich LeBlanc and Joann Hughes-Clark
 - ii. Law – Craig Silverman and Heidi Bond
 - iii. STM – Dick Cunningham
 - iv. Library – Doug Erickson
 - v. A&S – Alexander Mouton and Chris Paul
- b. Nominations for open positions
 - i. Albers – Ben Kim
 - ii. A&S – Therese Cory and Yitan Li
 - iii. MRC – Daniel Washburn
- c. Goals for the FTC
 - i. Prioritizing technology issues, including the relationship between teaching and technology. Imperative for faculty representation on these issues.
 - ii. Learning Management System (LMS) replacement process
 - 1. Final four LMS candidates

2. Demos
 3. Working groups
 4. E-portfolio, analytics
 5. Collaborative learning, creative spaces
- iii. Collect systematic data and feedback from usability testing with faculty, undergraduate students, and graduate students.
 - iv. The discussion will also include implementation of new core and assessment issues.
 - v. During winter quarter the FTC will consolidate information and then present decision to AcA and make a final recommendation to upper administration.
- d. Vote on continuing members and nominations
 - i. All continuing members are voted on and approved.
 - ii. John Strait will thank Therese Cory and Yitan Li for volunteering from A&S, even though the spots are filled by continuing members (miscommunication).
 - iii. Note that FTC meetings are open so that other faculty volunteers can attend meetings or do testing.
 - e. Vote on 2 AcA Members on FTC
 - i. Chris Stipe from S&E.
 - ii. Rob Rutherford from S&E.
 - f. FTC Members still needed
 - i. One representative each from CoE and Nursing.

V. Meeting adjourned at 3:39pm.