

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

17 August 2018

Senators present: Chuck Conaway, Peter Cashel-Cordo, Rich Bennett, Kenny Purcell, Brandon Field, Charlotte Connerton, Ken Shemroske, Matt Hanka, Wes Durham, Ethel Elkins, Rex Strange, Mary Doerner, Perry Burnett, Alisa Holden,

Other attendees: Amy Chan-Hilton, Michael Dixon, Mohammad Khayum

- Meeting called to order: 10 am
- Brandon Field was elected as secretary, with one opposing vote.
 - Senators were encouraged to have the Giovanni Font installed on their work computers, as this is the official USI serif font and will be the font that the minutes are taken in.
- Minutes were amended to complete and clarify; unanimously approved with abstentions from senators who were not here.
- Meeting times of the Faculty Senate for the Fall semester: 31 Aug, 14 Sept, 28 Sept, 19 Oct, 2 Nov, 16 Nov, and 7 Dec. All meetings will be held at 2:30pm in the BEC board room. Motion to approve meeting times was carried unanimously.
- Selection of Vice Chair:
 - Matt Hanka self-nominated.
 - Wes nominated Kenny Purcell.
 - Peter wants to discuss the problems with the Constitutional policy of the Vice Chair becoming the Chair at a future date. Discussion of institutional memory. Peter was encouraged to prepare a charge at a future meeting, Rex expressed interest in helping to prepare this charge.
 - The two nominees were given an opportunity to introduce themselves to the Senate and the roles they have played on campus.
 - Kenny Purcell was elected.
 - A motion was made to appoint Matt to be the interim Vice Chair in the Spring semester, when Chuck goes on sabbatical and Kenny assumed the Chair role. Motion carried.
- Additional representatives are needed from the Faculty and Academic Affairs subcommittees: Al will check for LA; Kenny will check for Pott; Charlotte will NHP.
- Alternates for Senate positions are also needed from Pott College (3), RCoB (3), and LA (3).
- Updates from Chuck, Senate Chair:
 - Charge form was edited to allow for annotations to be made in the later sections.
 - A request was made to Dr. Khayum for a seat at the Provost's Council, but that was denied. The Faculty Senate Chair sits on the President's Council, and that is where Dr. Rochon wants the conversation to occur. Chuck's request was because of concern with the formal charge completion process within the Provost's Office. Other faculty have also expressed with how requests sometimes disappear. Documentation and a repository of charges is missing. It was suggested that the Senate charges could be logged in a similar way to Curriculumlog that people could all see. Chuck will bring a charge to put together something for procedural guidelines.

- No update on the Provost's Search. Dr. Khayum does not think the committee has been formed. Each College has submitted names, and Dr. Rochon intends to add two more faculty to the committee. David Bower is chairing the search committee for the new Provost.
- There is a meeting between the MBA program and the program from the school in India on Monday from 2-3pm that Chuck was invited to, but he is not available. He is looking for someone to attend in his stead.
- Handbook updates: Core 39 committee has been moved to a Senate Subcommittee, and two changes that were made to the Promotions Committee. All those changes have been made, and the updated handbook will be available around September 1.
- Kat Draughon is developing a USI Survey Governance Policy that will cover all surveys that are done on and for campus. Chuck has asked Kat to bring that to the next meeting.
- New dashboard for SET will allow chairs and deans to compare faculty to one another.
- There will be fire drills in the second week of the semester.
- There will be a charge forthcoming regarding the Academic Program review going to the Assessment Committee.
- The ad hoc committee for SET Recommendations submitted their final report in June and it was approved via email with 10 "yes" votes and 1 "abstention" vote.
- Open charges from last year were discussed, in addition to the standing charges for each of the subcommittees.
- Interim Provost's Update, Dr. Khayum:
 - Dr. Rochon has been unexpectedly called out of town, so he is unable to attend today.
 - A number of Higher Learning Commission criteria relate directly to faculty; he would like to get Faculty Senate more apprised with regard to what the criteria are and how we are to meet with them. He thinks that we, as an institution, are behind in where we need to be for the next report. He hopes that the Faculty Senate members can help expedite the process of cleaning up a lot of what we need to be doing, both in Core Assessment, but also in processes, by increasing awareness across campus of what's needed.
 - Strategic plan goals need to be looked at to assess what we have done.
 - Academic Program Review doesn't have to be tied in solely with HLC. We need to examine our program review process.
 - Student Evaluation of Teaching; Senate needs to continue to play a role in the follow up.
 - His prediction: We will continue to be bombarded with interdisciplinary focuses. Will continue to be pressured to provide "on-demand" teaching. Senate is the only body on campus that can have a fruitful discussion across disciplines; and we need to be thinking about updating ourselves with regard to things that we need to do.
 - Across campus, we have a number of units that are not equipped with the conceptual understanding of what they are supposed to be doing. When people across campus were asked to develop measures, no one knows how to properly develop metrics that can be useful. We have talent within campus in this, and Senate can be the place that coordination of these efforts comes from and moves through.
 - Will ask Steve Bridges to come to Senate and present the budget and what it means.
 - It was commented that the whole faculty should also hear this, but the Provost is going to start with Senate as the representative body.
- Voted to adjourn after lunch: unanimously approved with one abstention, and one senator already absent.