FACULTY SENATE

Minutes

The Faculty Senate met on Jurie 2024

- x AVPAE Linus Yu is here and starting to reach out
- x The Provost wished everyone a wonderful summer to end her report.
- x End of report.
- x Questions?
 - o Randall Paul: You said that there is potential for@/5drop. Do you know how that is broken down by campus?
 - f Provost: 9.2% in KF and up a little in PM. 7.1% down online.
 - o Terri: Historically, have our students waited this long to register?
 - f Provost: Year to year, this is the worst year for freshmen, actually.
 - o Terri: I heard you say there are things faculty can do to help this, but I wonder if in your meetings if you have talked about what everyone can do
 - f Provost: Last week I would have said that everyone should make announcements in their classes. Dr. Stringer is working with VP Clark to see what Student Affairs can do. There are still issues with advisors not being available and students not being able to find them.
 - o CJ: Is our acceptance rate being considered as a factor? I have seen many students this year who have decided to leave, more than any other year, and the trend for those I have seen is that they are not well prepared. Have you looked at that?
 - f Provost: We need to look at the numbers to study that. I don't think that's the issue. But there is a lot that we need to consider.
 - x CJ: Why don't you think the acceptance rate is a contributing factor?
 - o Provost: Because we're getting a lot of good students. Admissions have not dropped their standards.
 - f CJ: I've seen many students leaving, anecdotally, that can only be ascribed to underpreparedness.
 - x The Provost pointed to summer programs as a way to mitigate this issue, but also said we can't carry on such programs without funding.
 - o Terri: I think we should do some stats. We should try to find out who these students are, why they're leaving, and where they aren't prepared, if they aren't. We have tried to meet the students where they are, but sometimes that doesn't work. Maybe theatens sibility of a collaboration between IR and faculty to better understand the issues?
 - f Provost: Some work has already been done on this. More will be done in the future.
 - o David Johnston: What systems are in place for asking students why they might not return?
 - f Provost: We have texts and emails, but many students don't want to respond and you can't make them tell you
 - o Rley Richards: You said we should let someone know if a student is not coming back you said to reach out to Dr. String@
 - f Provost: Yes.

- o Bobbi Kowash: Do you take into account programs like MIT, where students sometimes don't register until they find out if they make it into the program, and don't find out about their program acceptance until late?
 - f Provost: We actually take that into account because this is the same time every year.
- o CJ: What are the advising and retention offices doing on this front?

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- o College Deans were asked to meet regularly with department chairs. Chairs were asked to meet regularly with their departments.
- o There are two types of summer contracts to request: academic teaching contracts and hourly contracts for ninemonth faculty doing academic/departmental work out of contract during summer. Chairs should request contracts for anyone who ninghis over the summer, just to be safe.
- o Our first-year orientation (SOAR) will try to place faculty in front of students before the first day in the classroom. Online students can attend in person.
- o Appointment letters should be sent within the next two weeks.
- o On the Convocation 2024 schedule: September 16th will be for travel, and the 17th through th 19th will be for the event. The 20th would be for return travel. The program will follow last year's format. If you have ideas for sessions, email the Provost's Office.
 - f Some trainings are required, and whether some of them can be offered online instea of at Convocation is being looked into.
 - f All faculty will be trained on Inspire
- o The Provost mentioned that retention must improve.
- x End of report.
- x Questions?
 - o There were no questions.

Report of ASOIT Rep – Ron White (PMSOIT)

- x This past Friday was an end of the year BBQ for all students, faculty, and staff here on campus. We're trying to pursue more involvement with students when it comes to course evals. Also trying to encreas registration and doing a registration drive. Last ASOIT meeting of the year is tomorrow
- x End of report.
- x There was no representative from Klamath Falls, so there was no report.

Administrative Council Report – Carl Agrifoglio

- x Carl is filling in for Kelly Sullivan.
- x Admin Council met in May.
 - o We recognized a new employee, a firstar advisor for ETM.
 - o There was a training from cybersecurity about how to protect yourself against deepfakes.
 - o The monthly kudos award winner was Elizabeth Stovall.
 - o There was some staff feedback on how to better share community connections between th university and local communities.
 - o There was an election and thus some new members of Admin Council were voted in:
 - f Ashlie Pence
 - f Dierdre Harlan
 - o Some members were relected:
 - f Cat
 - f Carleen Starr
 - f Gaylyn Maurer
- x End of report
- x Questions?
 - o There were no questions.

- Cecily Heiner: There used to be things like a faculty wives club; I know because I have cleaned out some dead people's homes
 - f Vanessa: Is there any opposition to removing this?
 - x There was no opposition, so it will be removed.
- x "Voting privileges at faculty and administrator meetings"?
 - o Vanessa: No opposition to removing?
 - f There was no opposition, so it will be removed.
- o Revise the Academic Integrity policy with a focus on Al.
 - f The committee came up with two potential policy versions to address this, and based on a previous Faculty Senate vote, went with the second option. This revised policy is also included in the June Senate packet.
- x Ken Usher asked if Senate is going to vote on all of these policies. Vanessa was unsure at first, and Terr darified that even with small language changes, we have to vote to approve the policies and then they have to go to President's Council.
- x Cristina Negoita: What other institutions did you use for your summer analysis?
 - o Kamal: Wendy Ivie looked at the other Oregon universities.
 - o Vanessa: They were all over the place. You can pick your approach to administering a class during the summer at the other universities. We looked at 5d 10 week options, as well as 4nd 8-week options
- x Riley (?) made a motion to approve the revised Dead Week Policy and Kamal seconded. The motio passed
- x Riley made a motion to approve the revised Final Exam Policy and Bobbi seconded
 - o Ken What are we changing? I thought these [first two policies] hadn't changed.
 - f Terri: There is a policy template that now needs to be used and we are voting on these policies in that new format.
 - o David J.: When you were talking about this earlier, you said something about Portland Metro doing things differently. But there's nothing in this policy. I've always thought it was strange that there's nothing written down about how we handle examsener
 - f Vanessa: Riley is going to answer that.
 - x Riley: See the applicability and scope section, the last sentence.
 - o David J.: I see it. Thank you
 - o Ken: Should that clarification be in the applicability and scope section, or elsewhere?
 - f Riley: It's there because that's what the template dictates.
 - o The motion passed.
- x Terri: The Emeritus policy changes have been described, but the policy has not yet been sent to you. Would you like to vote on the emeritus policy now, since the changes are minor and obvious, or do you want to wait until fall?
 - o Vanessa: The only significant change we made was to change that one timeline item from Marc to February. We also made small changes to the list of perks to more accurate reflect what they actually get, but those aren-5.5 (co)-3.1 (r)-0.7 (e0 ()-59m)1.1 (a)-7 (w)-2.8 (a)-5 (a)-2.9n.8 (e)0.5 (

- x Sean: Was this from our department? If it was, they are lying. We have team projects so at least one person needs to be at the booth at all times.
- x Ganghee Jang: Our senior project is individual, so our students are the only ones who can staff their booth.
 - o Randall: If I understand the Dead Week policy we just approved, it is not appropriate to have something like this during Dead Week.
 - f Vanessa: This is why our committee recommended that all faculty more readily follow the Dead Week policy, so issues like this don't come up.
 - x Sean: But you can offer major projects during 22sl. 1.6152 72.88

- f There's been a large amount of administrative churn.
- o U of O:
 - f There was a large student encampment, but the outcome was "smoother" than at PSU The eport said that the U of O Faculty Senate got highly involved and that that helped diffuse tensions.
- o WOU:
 - f Appointed a new Interim Vice President of Finance.
 - f Implementing a new curriculum approval management system over the summer.
 - f The Provost is floating an idea for a new class of NTT faculty.
 - f Loss of senior faculty is leading to "a leadership vacuum" at Faculty Senate.
- o Oregon Tech:
 - f We're searching for a new HAS Dean.
 - f We have a relatively recent hire in the position of ETM Dean.
 - f We have a new Associate VP for SEM.
 - f We have hired a new Associate VP for Academic Excellence.
 - f We have a search in process for the Libraries Director.
 - f NTT collective bargaining is underway.
 - f As of the last Faculty Senate meeting, the administration hadn't finalized next year's budget.
 - f Faculty Senate recently presented a resolution expressing a concern regarding financial mismanagement. The Board's response was to send the OT President to the Faculty Senate during their May 7th meeting.
 - f The university is looking to make external Chair hires for a number of departments.
- x Cristina added that some of the abovementioned universities have had to respond to encampments of

of the other Oregon Tech representatives on these committees to hear how this is going, maybe a Convocation session?

- x Vicki: I was emailed this list of the 80 most transferred courses and they are working down this list.
 - o Riley: Does anyone know, or is there an estimated timeline formwhe this is going to be done?
 - f Vicki: No.
 - x Ken and Randall pointed out that the process is meant to be iterative, so it will just repeat (and review) once it's done.
- x Randall: I would echo Ken that on my committee (math and calculus specifically). There was not the tension you're describing. The conversation was about 4 versus 5 credits. The community college professors wanted more credits to teach their classes effecti

- f Doing all of these reductions amounted to about 3.4M in reductions or a 3.9% reduction from last year's permanent budget.
- x Provost Mott mentioned that the incoming freshman numbers are up at this point. She mentioned that we are bleeding with continuing students as lot of current students have still not registered for the fall Retention is dropping every year, and it has again dropped this year.
- x Questions?
 - o Randall: Can I ask about the 300% increase? That's quadrupled? What quadrupled?
 - f Deb: Last year the administrative salary pool wa\$1at4k and this year it is budgeted at \$537k. So, it's the increase in the pool that will supply administrator salary increases. It's based on the administrative compensation study.
 - x Cristina: They do a pay study to determine the market rate for administrator positions. They do this by law, but they don't do this for us because the pay equity study in the CBA is not this. They will also do a study like this for unchassifie staff.
 - o Vanessa: And the university pays for this?
 - f Cristina: Yes, they have to. Carleen asked already, and Sandi Hanan is most likely to know the cost of it.
 - o Cristina said that the Provost's Office reported having to cut eighteen positions for next year in order to meet the budget shortfall. Cristina asked in response what the "opportunity cost" of not having those positions on campus for next year: she calculated on her own, and caree to the answer of \$10-\$11 million tuition dollars lost by not having those positions next year.
 - o Terri: So the \$205k for the PM building: where does that come from?
 - f Deb: That's a strategic investment, so it's already earmarked. It comes from the general fund.

Open Floor Terri Torres

- x Terri: It has come to my attention from my students and people who I serve with that clubs have a process to spend their money that is onerous. It's hard for the students and their advisor. I advise two clubs and it's very hard to work with the individuals SIB
 - Vanessa: It's not just Terri that has this issue. Some of the individuals in SIB are recongmendin that clubs don't use certain venues and places in town because they are "difficult to work with."
 I think we're starting to lose some relationships in the process. It's difficult to hold events and even fundraisers in town because of this
 - o Vicki: I teach small group communication and the students do projects. What's odd is that there's a very uneven response when they look for resources. They go to SIB first, and sometimes SIB pays for things and sometimes they don't. Things like bringing tables out or paint for their signs, for example. The inconsistency is embarrassing, and demoralizing to students. I wish there was a more streamlined way for students to get support for those on campus projects.
 - o Terri: One of my students was told you have to do such and such to spend "our money" and that's not actually the way it is. I'll meet with them (SIB) next week to see what can be done.
 - f David H.: Was this just for KF or is this also for PM?
 - x Terri: I haven't heard anything about PM, have you?
 - o David H.: No

Vanessa Bennett

- x Vanessa: Thank you Terri for your many years of service.
 - o Terri: I am humbled by all that you do. I know that I can always ask you for something. Thank you for letting me serve you and thank you for all that you do.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

CJ Riley, Secretary (AY 2023-2024, original draft)