

Faculty Senate Minutes
Thursday, November 3rd, 2016
Alumni House 2:00-3:30 PM

I. Attendance:

John Aleshunas, Robin Assner-Alvey, Larry Baden, Anne Geraghty-Rathert, Gary Glasgow, Ryan Groeneman, Mike Hulsizer, Scott Jensen, Debbie Psihountas, Gary Renz, Terri F. Reilly, Eric Rhiney, Basiyr Rodney, Joe Sencibaugh, Stephanie Schroeder, Jill Stulce.

II. Minutes:

Approval of October 6, 2016 Senate minutes postponed pending A. Geraghty-Rathert rewriting section on the Department of Labor's overtime regulations and impact on Webster's contingent faculty.

III. President's Report and Updates from Senators:

- A. Smoke-free campus status update by B. Rodney. Student representatives are drafting a proposal to make Webster University a smoke-free campus as early as Spring 2017. Many college campuses have adopted a similar smoke-free stance on campus. If approved by students, this will only become university policy if approved by the Administration. Students are not waiting for the Senate. Therefore the Senate does not need to act at this time. However, the Senate agreed that once the student proposal is finalized, B. Rodney should bring it to the Senate for review.
- B. Update on pay for performance dispute in SOC by M. Hulsizer. M. Hulsizer met with J. Schuster over the SOC pay dispute based upon performance pay. Upon discussion it was determined that the SOC has a different merit-based pay scale than the rest of the university, which conflicts with the understanding that all colleges follow the same pay for performance policy. The Senate agreed to hold off addressing this issue until later. With respect to individuals with pay disputes, M. Hulsizer will continue to work with them.
- C. The Senate confirmed G. Renz's agreement with Provost Schuster to create two permanent finance and marketing/GMC steering committees, with status and status-track faculty members and administrators on both committees. The Senate and the administration need to determine how many people should be on the steering committee and what should be their qualifications. The financial steering committee will address budgeting, financial and enrollment reporting, and tuition issues. The marketing steering committee will address, inter alia, advertising, marketing strategies, and marketing research.
- D. The Senate confirmed G. Renz's agreement with Provost Schuster to create ad hoc task force to investigate and make recommendations on "blended education," which combines online and on-ground education in a shorter, more intensive delivery model. The task force will be composed of status and status-track faculty members and administrators, with the size and composition of the task force yet to be determined. The military reportedly requested "blended education" courses to increase enrollments. This class style may also help improve metropolitan campus enrollments. Several Senators noted these types of classes have already been implemented in some colleges and schools. However, the Senate agreed that clearer guidelines need to be developed that could be implemented in all colleges and schools. Concerns were raised that shorter

- terms and fewer classes used in “blended education” may reflected poorly on Webster and give the university the appearance of a “diploma mill”. The Senate agreed to create the ad hoc task force. B. Rodney agreed to chair the creation of the task for the faculty.
- E. The Senate confirmed G. Renz’s agreement with Provost Schuster to have faculty members participate in the formal review of enrollments in all Webster programs and departments. The Senate agreed that faculty members need to be involved in the review to ensure relevant issues are considered, such as cross-listed classes and unique course staffing in some colleges. The exact process will be determined, but it will involve the Senators from each college and school.
- F. Representatives from the Curriculum Committee (Remy Cross, Ryan Gregg, and Victoria Brown-Kennerly) updated the Senate on Curriculum Committee matters and answered questions.
1. The deadline for changing catalogues has passed, but the committee is still accepting new content requests until mid-January.
 2. With the new Adobe contract, all forms will transition to paperless forms. This is estimated to take 1 year.
 3. A Senator asked on average how many changes are made to the programs. The committee answered once every 3 years either new or edited content is put into place. Most programs have through major changes and a history of these changes can be found on their website.
 4. A Senator was concerned that curriculum proposals were going to deans before going to the Curriculum Committee. The Senate asked if there would be any consideration to a change in operations. The committee responded that there is a lack of clarity in deans’ roles in the process. Starting with redesigning its forms, the Curriculum Committee will explore changes in its processes.
 5. In response to a question, the Curriculum Committee reported that there are no programs that are not housed within their proper department. It has occurred where paperwork comes in for programs not housed within its own department, but committee rejects them and sends back to the requestor.
 6. A Senator asked if the Curriculum Committee checks to see if there is redundancy in courses at the university. The committee answered that the colleges should be checking for this.
 7. The Curriculum Committee stated that SOC must appoint a representative for Mary Cox, who is retiring. S. Jensen said he would look into this issue. The committee also noted that J. Roberts is currently sitting in for B. Brink. However, this was not approved by the Senate and G. Renz will investigate.
- G. The Senate agreed that other Senate committee chairs should also provide periodic updates to the Senate. However, the Senate agreed that committee chairs do not have to present in person and could email reports. The Senate agreed that the President would request reports after school starts again in January.

IV. New Business:

- A. G. Renz requested that Troy Luh was approved as a faculty representative on the budget committee. After discussion, motion made by T. Reilly, seconded by A. Geraghty-Rathert. Motion passed unanimously.

- B. Request to appoint Paul Fraizer to the Faculty Assembly was tabled.
- C. G. Renz presented Dan Hellinger's proposal to change the number of credit hours required to graduate to 120 credit hours from the current 128 credit hour requirement for undergraduate degrees. The Senate agreed to form an ad hoc task force to investigate the issue. Stephanie Schroeder agreed to chair the task force.

V. **Old Business:**

- A. Discussion of who should be on the faculty assembly email list server was tabled.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:35 PM.