

## **MINUTES/FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**March 1, 2012**

The Senate met on Thursday, March 1, 2012 at the Alumni House

Ralph Olliges, Faculty Senate President, Presiding

**Members Present:** John Aleshunas, Glen Bauer, Maxine Bauermeister, Carla Colletti, Don Conway-Long, Susan Heady, Andrea Rothbart, Stephanie Schroeder, Marty Smith, Eileen Solomon, Roy Tamashiro, Keith Welsh, Gwyneth Williams

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February 16th Faculty Senate meeting minutes as amended. All were in favor; motion carried.

### **Announcements**

The next Faculty Senate meeting is scheduled for March 22, 2012.

### **Committee Update: What constitutes a faculty member?**

The committee met after the last Faculty Senate meeting to edit the University Handbook language they had drafted to address Julian Schuster's concerns. Julian would like to see newly hired administrators have voting rights in the Faculty Assembly for issues that may affect them. Julian feels it is okay for newly hired administrators to have no voting rights within departments.

It is felt that administrators voting in the Faculty Assembly could be considered a conflict of interest. In addition, a close vote could be affected by administrator's votes. The current University Handbook language reads, administrators including anyone that has been full-time Webster faculty retain the right to vote in the Faculty Assembly.

The committee will make changes to the proposed University Handbook language and return with that language to the March 22nd Faculty Senate meeting to determine if the Senate would like to vote to send it to the Faculty Assembly with their endorsement.

### **Spring Institute**

Glen Bauer gave an update of the March 23rd Spring Institute. The committee will meet again next Thursday, March 8, at 1:30 p.m. to finalize the details. Participants are still being lined up and Glen will meet with Jennifer Stewart in the University Center to arrange the equipment needs.

A video tribute to Neil George was planned, but the President's Office is already working on a video tribute for Neil later in May so it was determined that the Senate would not proceed with their own video tribute to Neil. Faculty will have the opportunity to say a few words about Neil George after the presentation.

The question was asked if faculty will be sent a reminder about the Spring Institute. Yes, one or more reminders will be sent to faculty regarding the Spring Institute.

### **University Handbook Language**

Ralph and Glen met with Julian Schuster regarding several items that have been pending since last fall. The first document was on Faculty Status Review Procedure for Candidates for Senior Academic Administrator. The only change that Julian requested was to add the Associate Provost to the language. There was discussion on the correct title for Associate Provost and Glen will contact Julian for clarification of the title.

The second document was on Proposed University Handbook Language for Department Name Changes and Similar Modifications. Julian was accepting of the language with the amendment of removing "the President"

and adding “Provost” in its place. Discussion ensued and it was explained that in examining strong Provost models, the Provost operates internally to the University and the President operates externally to the University.

A motion was made and seconded to adopt the document as amended. With the exception of one opposition, motion carried.

The third document was a proposed amendment to the section on Schools and Colleges of the University Handbook. Julian objected to a majority vote in the Faculty Assembly. The Senate felt that the creation of a School or College needs to be a majority vote and that it should be left in the language. There was discussion about the many other academic structures (i.e., institutes, centers) that are closely affiliated with a School or College and whether or not that should be addressed in this language. It was determined that it should be a separate issue.

A motion was made to move forward with the University Handbook language on Schools and Colleges as amended and present it, with the other University Handbook language documents, to the Faculty Assembly. All were in favor; motion carried.

### **Equity Study Update**

Julian would like definition clarification as well as the taskforce’s charge and expected outcome. Julian does not want this to become a revisiting of major salary issues. The intent of the creation of the Equity Taskforce was to study equity across boundaries. It was suggested to contact those that served on the last Equity Taskforce to get an idea of what has been done in the past. Glen has communicated with several individuals and has received some documentation. The next step would be to come up with a clear and distinct document that gives the charge of the Equity Taskforce. It was proposed that a member of the Women’s Studies Committee should be on the Equity Taskforce.

### **Francophone Faculty Position**

Someone has accepted the Francophone seat as an Associate Professor. More endowed chairs will probably be hired at a later date so the Senate needs to work on language to cover how status/tenure will be handled. In researching endowed chairs, most universities state that the naming of an endowed chair must be in line with university procedures on faculty appointments. Research will continue and the findings will be brought back to the Faculty Senate.

### **Old Business**

Final language for dissolution of general studies needs to come forward. A proposal that will have advisory implications for First Year and Keystone Seminars needs to be addressed too.

### **South Carolina Faculty**

At the February 16th Faculty Senate meeting, discussion took place concerning the hiring of faculty for the counseling program at the Webster South Carolina campus. Concerning that discussion the following motion was made: Ralph is to write a letter to be sent to David Wilson, Michael Hulsizer, and Stacy Henning stating that the Faculty Senate is aware of the need to hire faculty in South Carolina and it is the understanding of the Faculty Senate that these faculty are not covered by the University Handbook or the Faculty Assembly.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.