

Faculty Senate Meeting
April 4, 2013

Ralph Olliges, Faculty Senate President, Presiding

Members Present: Glen Bauer, Juraj Bohus, Carla Colletti, Sally Howald, J.P. Palmer-Schuyler, Xiaoyuan Suo, Roy Tamashiro, Carole Tucker, Gwyneth Williams

Approve Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 7, 2013 Faculty Senate minutes as amended. All were in favor; motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 19, 2013 Faculty Assembly minutes as amended. All were in favor; motion carried.

Announcements

It was decided to keep the April 18th Faculty Senate meeting as scheduled. The suggestion had been made to cancel the meeting due to the Human Rights Conference, but it was determined that those who wanted to attend the conference could still do so or choose to attend the Senate meeting.

Faculty Assembly Agenda

The only agenda item for the April 9th Faculty Assembly is a report by the Salary and Fringe Benefits Committee. Jeffrey Carter is expected to receive the report back from the administration.

Ralph was asked if he could bring forward the issue of the Discovery Benefits card as many people are having issues with claims being denied. In the past, if you had a doctor's appointment, all that was needed was the receipt for the office visit and Discovery is now demanding a diagnostic sheet. The statement was made that this should not even be an issue as the insurance company needs to know an individual's diagnosis and not Discovery. The question was asked if this is a Discovery or insurance requirement. Ralph will check on this.

It was stated that Jeffrey Carter sent out an email requesting information on the Discovery Benefits card and to check with him to see what information has already been collected.

Regarding denial of claims, Webster Today stated that there is only an 18 percent denial rate.

University Challenges Plan – Barrett Baebler and Gary Renz

The following discussion took place regarding the plan that Barrett Baebler and Gary Renz presented at the March 7th Senate meeting. It was suggested that the Senate could possibly appoint a couple of individuals to be involved in the budgeting process and then report back to

the Senate in cooperation with Provost Schuster. This would allow faculty to have a better understanding of budget decisions.

There is faculty in the George Herbert Walker School of Business & Technology that have Ph.D.'s in Finance and Business and could put that knowledge to good work towards the budget process. Faculty who are well trained in this area can take on a bigger perspective as an agent of the Senate. The Senate could ask for a volunteer from Accounting and one from Management. This would not be a process of telling the administration how to run the University, but would allow faculty to provide input into the priorities of the budget.

Last fall at a Faculty Assembly meeting, the administration explained that we were moving to a different model of budgeting process and that the new process would be a more cooperative process. This would be a good time to act.

Program Review

The question was asked if program review will result in any changes of any kind. Nothing more has been learned from the Working Groups. The Program Review Committee completed their report and submitted it to Provost Schuster. The Committee is awaiting a response from Provost Schuster.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m.