

MINUTES/FACULTY SENATE MEETING

October 6, 2011

The Senate met on Thursday, October 6, 2011 at the Alumni House

Ralph Olliges, Faculty Senate President, Presiding

Members Present: John Aleshunas, Jef Awada, Glen Bauer, Maxine Bauermeister, Mary Bevel, Carla Colletti, Susan Heady, Dan Hellinger, Scott Jensen, John Orr, Stephanie Schroeder, Marty Smith, Eileen Solomon, Roy Tamashiro, Keith Welsh, Gwyneth Williams

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the September 15th Faculty Senate meeting were approved. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. All were in favor; motion carried.

Announcements

The date of the next Faculty Senate meeting has changed from October 20th to October 27th due to Fall Break.

Provost Schuster will attend the November 3rd Faculty Senate meeting to speak on program review.

The Fall Institute Committee will meet October 13th at 1:30 p.m.

Faculty Status

A lengthy discussion took place regarding faculty status and governance (voting privileges on Faculty Assembly). The current practice (of administrators hiring administrators and giving them faculty status) contradicts the University Handbook and AAUP guidelines. A sub-committee has been formed to further investigate this issue and will report back to the Senate with their findings and possible resolution.

GCPC

A discussion took place with regard to double coding the courses (This involves the middle eight courses. It excludes the Keystone and First Year Seminar courses.) in the GCP program. The general consensus is that GCP should not double code courses without a mandate by the Faculty Assembly. The statement was made that the intent of the original report was that each course would carry only one code.

The following motion was made and seconded: The Senate affirms that the GCPC proposal passed by the Faculty Assembly limits coding of courses to one critical skill. If the GCPC wishes to amend the proposal, it shall present a motion to that effect at a subsequent Faculty Assembly meeting. With the exception of two opposed, all were in favor; motion carried.

Faculty Assembly

The subject of adjunct faculty who hold administrative positions being appointed to the Faculty Assembly was discussed. It is believed that having adjunct faculty appointed to the Faculty Assembly is a good idea and that they bring a great deal to the table. It is felt that having adjunct that are invested in Webster University enhances the Faculty Assembly more than those that do not have as vested an interest. Defining the term adjunct and all that it encompasses was also discussed. The Senate needs to come up with language dealing with appointments to the Faculty Assembly as well as Faculty Senate.

A motion was made and seconded to reaffirm the policy that adjunct positions be held on the Faculty Assembly by those whose primary responsibility at Webster University is teaching. Vote was taken with 10 in favor; 7 opposed. Motion carried.

A move was made to vote on appointing Kim Kleinman, as an adjunct member, to the Faculty Assembly. Vote was taken with 5 in favor; 9 opposed, 3 abstentions.

University Handbook Language - Procedures for Obtaining Leaves and Sabbaticals

Discussion ensued regarding a possible change in the University Handbook to address faculty leaves and sabbaticals. This change would deal with faculty being able to defer a leave, if the need arises. There is concern about those that do not take their leave when scheduled. Language change would allow deferment of a year, but not allow accrual. Senate members were asked to send their ideas to Dan Hellinger or to the Senate as a group and this issue will be taken up again at the October 27th Faculty Senate meeting.

Miscellaneous

Stephanie Schroeder reminded the group of the upcoming GCP work sessions that have been scheduled through the Faculty Development Center. She asked that faculty be encouraged to attend and to spread the word about the work sessions.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting; meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.