

Faculty Senate Meeting
September 3, 2015

Gwyneth Williams, Faculty Senate President, Presiding

Members Present: John Aleshunas, Jef Awada, Larry Baden, Glen Bauer, Cheryl Breig-Allen, Don Conway-Long, Anne Geraghty-Rathert, Ryan Groeneman, Tori Meyer, Terri Reilly, Joseph Sencibaugh, Martha Smith, Joe Stimpfl, Phyllis Wilkinson

Student Orientation – Parent’s Reception Report -

John Aleshunas attended the Parent’s Reception for the end of Student Orientation. He reported that those parents he spoke with expressed positive comments regarding the orientation experience. Several parents wished that the arrival of students be planned so that roommates could move in together. One parent suggested that a virtual dorm room option might facilitate shared planning of furniture placement prior to actual move in. This option may also help early bonding between roommates. Many parents enjoyed the presentation by Provost Schuster and appreciated the message that Webster is a place that will care about your child/student!

Gwyneth reminded senators of upcoming events for Senate representation:

- 1) Groundbreaking next week for the new Science Building.
- 2) December Toast – Friday, December 18th at 4:30 PM in the Community Music School.

I. Appointments -

A. Multi-Cultural Studies Committee -

A motion was made and seconded to approve Pinar Alakoc as Martina Steed’s replacement for Spring 2 and Summer 2016. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. Reports from Senate President -

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee of Board –

- 1) Provost Schuster shared information about various site reviews and how metrics are being created to measure retention, faculty mobility, student success, etc.
- 2) The University is on schedule with campuses that are being “taught out.”
- 3) We have formed a partnership with Oxford, but are now looking for a partner in London.
- 4) Work continues on the Vienna site accreditation

B. Administrative Council -

- 1) Revisions were made to the Sexual Harassment Policy as a result of feedback from the Office of Civil Rights.
- 2) The University is considering revising the policy regarding pregnant students to bring it in line with the provisions of ADA and Title IX. At Administrative Council, Gwyneth emphasized the importance of faculty being involved in the drafting of any new policy. The matter was tabled at Administrative Council.

C. Ken Freeman -

Gwyneth, and several faculty members, met Ken Freeman this summer regarding Windows migration and other faculty IT concerns. Based on that meeting, she

forwarded faculty emails to Ken Freeman outlining specific problems. Ken is invited to next week's Senate meeting to address some of the concerns faculty have.

III. Spring Institute Date 2016 –

The Senate previously voted to have the Spring Institute on Friday, April 1st. The date had to be changed due to a lack of available venue on campus. The Senate approved a revised date for Spring 2016 Institute of Friday, March 18th.

IV. Faculty Priorities Initiatives -

Gwyneth shared the Faculty Priorities Questionnaire and some of the responses received thus far from the academic departments. The FP initiative and questionnaire will be presented at the upcoming Faculty Assembly meeting.

V. Faculty Assembly September 8th Meeting Agenda –

- 1) Introduction of New Faculty
- 2) Reminder for Faculty of Upcoming Important Function Dates
- 3) Roles of Senate
 - A) Representation
 - B) Policymaking
 - C) Oversight
 - D) Constituent Service
- 4) Policymaking and Oversight: Committee Work
 - A) New Handbook Language
 - B) Committee Reporting Form
- 5) Representation: Faculty Priorities Initiative
- 6) Report on Enrollment – Provost Schuster
- 7) Report on Adjunct Initiatives – Provost Schuster

IV. Departmental Name Change (Tom Cornell) -

Tom Cornell presented a rationale for a name change for the Communication Arts, Reading, and Early Childhood Department. The department wants its name to reflect the faculty and programs in it.

Some senators think the new name recommendation is confusing and does not accurately represent the department. Tom will go back to the department to discuss alternative department names and will attend a future Senate meeting.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:24 p.m.