Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – November 7, 2017

Senators Present: Polly Allred, Ambrose Anoruo, Maria Ayala-Schueneman, Santa Barraza, Marion Blake, Rudolf Bohm, Jieming Chen, Horacio Duarte, Christine Fiestas, Ann Fronckowiak, Karen Furgerson, Kristopher Garza, Jeffrey Glick, Christopher Hearon, Brent Hedquist, Joseph Jones, Dongnyoung Kim, Larry Knight, Lana McDonnell, Brian Menaker, Craig A. Meyer, Richard Miller, Tim Oblad, Ari Sherris, Jack Shorter, Marsha Sowell, Amit Verma, Subbarao Yelisetti, Nuri Yilmazer, Hong Zhou

Senators Absent: Natasha Bell, Elizabeth Janzen, Kai Jin, Tanner Machado, Patrick Mills, Barbara Oates, Patricia Polastri, Joseph Sai, Elda E. Sanchez, Tushar Sinha, Randall Williams, Pamela Wright

Attending: Dr. Allen Rasmussen, Interim Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Mr. Arnoldo Trejo, Executive Director of Financial Aid

I. Call to Order and Quorum Call.
   At 3:31 p.m. President Miller asked the parliamentarian, Polly Allred, if enough members were present for a quorum. Senator Allred replied in the affirmative.

II. Approval of Minutes from October 2017 Faculty Senate Meeting.
   President Miller asked for approval of the previous meeting’s minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Presentations.
   A. Presentation from Dr. Allan Rasmussen, Interim Provost
      dr. Rasmussen reported that enrollment was down.
      The University is looking at areas for possible future recruitment; necessity of thinking strategically.
      The University is considering future STEM degrees.
      The Provost answered several questions on recruitment, growth, and programs.
   B. Presentation from Mr. Arnold Trejo, Director of Financial Aid
      Mr. Trejo gave a brief overview of his career.
      He mentioned not awarding up to cost of attendance on PLUS loans.
      Goal: minimize debt and enhance enrollment for 2018-2019. Already packaging financial aid since November 1: “We have a great academic program and faculty to go with it. Here’s your acceptance and the wherewithal to come.”
      Financial literacy: students receive money and then are taught how to manage their finances.

IV. Report of Officers
   a. Senate President Miller made his report.

V. Old Business
   a. Ratification of Amendments to the Senate Constitution by the General Faculty.

VI. Standing Committee Reports
a. Resolution and By-laws/Handbook Committee. Senator Anoruo explained progress on proposed changes to the Annual Faculty Evaluation. A motion was made to change “Approved by the Faculty Senate” to “Report accepted by the Faculty Senate.” The motion passed unanimously.

b. Committee on Committees

c. Election Committee – Committee was asked to hold elections.

VII. Reports from Committees Reporting to the Senate
a. Administrator Evaluation Committee – No report
b. Annual Faculty Leave Committee – No report
c. Faculty Evaluation Committee -
d. University Appeals Committee - No report
e. Faculty Benefits Committee - No report

VIII. Task Force Reports
a. Team Teaching – Asked for charge to Committee.
b. Summer Salary Caps – Senator Hearon made a report.

IX. New Business
a. Task Force on Salary Compression/Gender Equity – Committee created, Senator Blake, chair.
b. Task Force on Overload Compensation – Committee created, Senator Hearon, chair.
c. Proposal regarding merit pay. Senate President Miller asked for a motion to recommend that merit pay be based on performance since the last merit pay. The motion passed with three abstentions.
d. Order of the Broken Gavel. Senate President Miller asked for a motion to create the “Order of the Broken Gavel”. The motion passed with three abstentions.

X. Announcements.

XI. Adjournment. At 4:57 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made and passed.

Respectfully submitted,