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Faculty Council Minutes, January 19, 2005

Faculty Council
Eastern Michigan University

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UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES – MEETING NINE

January 19, 2005, 3 – 5 p.m.

Tower Room, McKenny Union

104 Pierce Hall Faculty.council@emich.edu 487-0196

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.

II. Approval of the minutes of January 5, 2005

The minutes were approved with the correction that J. Blumner and K. Stacey were guests and not members of the General Education Committee.

III. Appointments

A. Review of Program Review

Lidia Lee was appointed.

B. University Strategic Planning – 2 year appointments

College of Technology: Phil Cardon was appointed.

IV. Guest – Interim President Craig Willis

Interim President Willis indicated that this is a year of many acknowledgment and celebrations at EMU; it is the 25th year of the College of Technology, the Undergraduate Symposium, and the Music Department. He indicated that he (a) likes the people and the place more than he had expected, (b) sees EMU as filling a very good niche for first generation college students, and (c) is impressed by the commitment of faculty and delighted that this is widely acknowledged. He expressed regret that the facilities are in need of maintenance and repair. Lansing is considering releasing money for capital outlays, because construction workers are unemployed, and this would be one way of getting them work and improving facilities which very much need it. Governor Granholm has accepted the recommendation from Lieutenant Governor Cherry's Commission that 2 years of higher education should be part of the public education system.

Other points brought out in the subsequent discussion included the following.

- Many students have problems registering due to problems with the system.
- Graduate students tend to register late, because they believe that the bill is due 30 days following registration. This was true before Banner, but this is no longer true.
- There is no incentive for teaching at settings other than the EMU campus.
- The contract does not clearly cover online courses.
- Some universities are exploring options to 15-week terms. Some use a structure in which the first half of the 15 week term is dedicated to teaching and the second half to research. Many representatives expressed happy amazement with this option.
- The classrooms are much in need of repairs. IP Willis has taken legislators around and shown them some of the areas which much need improvement.
- IP Willis indicated that the dorms need to be looked at also. When he was a student in France, every room was a single room, because students can

go out to meet others, but they need a place to study and concentrate. This very much is true today also.

- EMU has very few alumni (5%) who give money. On average, 12-13% do so. The EMU alumni mention the change from Huron to Eagle as very painful to them.
- The web site is problematic, and there is no clear strategy for improving it.
- It would be a good idea to get feedback from people; for example, WEMU could create a program which permits people to call in.

V. Year of Languages – Margrit Zinggeler

The need for people who speak foreign languages is very clear as we look at activities of Intelligence Agencies, Armed Services, etc. As a result, Senate Resolution 70 has declared this to be the Year of Languages. ROTC again will require a language. Seventy percent of Americans have never taken a foreign language.

VI. General Education – The next phase

The implementation phase is being rewritten and will be presented to Faculty Council for careful evaluation.

VII. Update on the Regent's Advisory Committee

The Listening Sessions have yielded a list of characteristics which will be used to evaluate candidates for EMU president. The website provides a great deal of information.

The Listening Sessions made it very clear that all groups are impressed with the dedication of the faculty.

VIII. FCEB – Initiatives

A. Faculty Council Endowed Scholarship

An endowed scholarship requires raising \$10,000 in 5 years. This seems very possible and can be raised by faculty giving \$10 or \$20 each year. The motion to establish such a scholarship passed.

B. Standing Committees of Faculty Council – Governor's Advisory Committee and the Legislative Advisory Committee

When Legislator Alma Wheeler-Smith came to campus, she indicated that we are the only university which does not bring faculty to Lansing. Further, the other 11 universities which have appointed regents recommend regents to the governor.

The Governor's Advisory Committee is envisioned as a Campus Committee involving Juanita Reed from University Relations, lecturers' unions, etc., and the Legislative Advisory Committee as providing academic and not just political issues to the legislature. Lieutenant Governor Cherry has indicated that he believes that educational funding should include two-years at the university level, and Governor Granholm agrees with this, albeit that there may not be any way to enact legislation based on this conceptualization.

The AAUP has a lobbyist in Lansing and is active at the national level; it is nonpartisan.

Faculty Council will revisit the AAUP model with standing committees and a senate model.

A motion was made to approve the Governor's Advisory Committee and the Legislative Advisory Committee in principle, that the details should be worked out and brought back to Faculty Council for discussion and vote. The motion passed.

IX. Announcements

- The TENTH Faculty Council meeting for the 2004-2005 Academic Year will be held on February 2, 2005, 3 – 5 p.m., in the Tower Room of McKenny Union. VP John Beaghan and Tony Catner will present an overview of EMU's facilities and works in progress.
- The eighth Faculty Council Executive Board (FCEB) meeting will be held on January 26, 2005, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Faculty Council Office, 104 Pierce Hall.
- Please read your e-mail regularly. It is the primary method of communication regarding upcoming Faculty Council meetings and announcements.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Westman

Present: V. Okafor (AFS); E. Schwartz (ART); M. Coffman (BIOL); T.; Brewer (CHEM); S. McCracken (CTA); M. Evett (COSC); S. Erenburg (ECON); I. Ahmad (CIS); M. Zinggeler (FLABS); C. Mayda (GEO/GEOL); M. Paciorek (HHP); K. Chamberlain (HIS/PHIL); D. Silverman (HEALTH SCI); C. Haddad (TECH STUDIES); G. Mitchell (Engin Tech); L. Shirato (HALLE); D. Barton (MKT); J. Cohen Jones (MATH); V. Benitez (MUS); J. Porter (PHY/AST); A. Westman (PSY); M Ziefert (SWK); R. Orrange (SAC); L. Lee (SPED); M. McCormack (TED); S. Norton (WMST).

Guests: C. Willis (INTERIM PRESIDENT), Pat Zimmer (GRADUATE COUNCIL), Robert Murkowski (STUDENT GOVERNMENT VICE-PRESIDENT)

Absent: ACC, ENG, L&C, MGMT, NURS, PLS, and there was no Ex-Officio representative from the VP for Academic Affairs' Office.