Faculty Senate Minutes, November 18, 2009

Faculty Senate

Eastern Michigan University

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I. Call to order
The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. Approval of the Agenda
Perry Francis moved and Carol Haddad seconded the approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously with one modification. The additional item was a motion suggested by Carol Haddad about internal searches; see XII below.

III. Approval of the Minutes of November 4, 2009
Daryl Barton moved and Perry Francis seconded the approval of the minutes. The corrected minutes were approved unanimously following a rewording and two spelling corrections.

IV. Change of Name of Faculty Council to Faculty Senate
An MOU was approved between the administration and EMU-AAUP which changed the name of Faculty Council to Faculty Senate. Representatives are henceforth known as senators. The bylaws will be updated.

V. Faculty Senate Membership List – Mahmud Rahman
Mahmud Rahman created a master listing of the senators. All senators are requested to check the information in the listing and to fill in or correct any missing or incorrect information.

VI. Committee Appointments
A. Having Appointments Take Less Meeting Time
In order to make sure that less time is spent on nominating and electing or appointing faculty representatives, it is strongly urged that those willing to serve e-mail both the Faculty Senate President and their own senator, so that at meetings it is possible to move directly to presenting and voting on the candidates. The senator will present the candidate(s) which he or she represents.

B. University Budget Council
Daryl Barton moved and Mark Higbee seconded that Pam Becker (COT: Tech Mgt) be appointed by acclamation. The motion passed unanimously. An alternate from CAS still is needed.

C. Judicial Appeals Board
Ranjan Chaudhuri (COSC) and Brooke Dagnan (CMTA) were elected to 3-year terms, with Rosina Tammany (Library) as alternate.

D. University Research and Sabbatical Leave Committee (URSLC)
Paul Chao (COB) recused himself from the November 30 meeting. The Faculty Senate Executive Board appointed by acclamation Mahmud Rahman (COB) to substitute for him for this one meeting and requested that the full Senate affirm this action. By voice vote the Senate unanimously affirmed the appointment.

VII. Status of Previous Appointments
A. Campus Disabilities Advisory Committee (CDAC)
This committee is still being created and elections will take place at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

B. Universal Judicial Board
Jesús Hernández talked about this; see IX below.

C. Chief Government Relations Search Committee Status

A Faculty Senate representative, Marti Bombyk, was accepted as a member of this search committee, and the search is underway.

VIII. Status of the Faculty Senate Gen Ed Review Committee

Lidia Lee will chair the committee, and both Matt Evett and Mark Higbee will be members. It is hoped that the members of last year’s committee will be willing to serve this year.

IX. Student Conduct and Community Standards -- Jesús Hernández, Director

This office designed the policies of the Student Conduct Code (www.emich.edu/studentconduct) and provides disciplinary processes and conduct programs that foster ethical development, personal accountability and civility toward others. The attempt is to avoid being punitive and to protect the due process rights of students; however, the advocacy is not for the student but for the community.

The University Judicial Board is a comprehensive review of disciplinary cases. Six faculty are requested to serve for 2 years. The Judicial Appeals Board is much more limited in its focus. Four faculty serve for 2 years.

Faculty should feel very free to contact this office for consultation. Action will not be taken against students unless the faculty member requests it or there are safety issues.

Discussion brought out the following points.

• Faculty do not have the authority to permanently remove a student from his or her class. The student deserves due process; however, in case there is a safety issue, a police officer can be outside the classroom during class meetings and the formal hearing will be finished as soon as possible.

• There is concern about how long it takes to notify a student to come to the Office of Student Conduct and Community Standards, to have the student meet with Director Hernández, and to have the formal review run its course.

• There is no time limit for plagiarism. In fact, there is no time limitation on the Student Conduct Code.

• Grade grievance is outside of this office’s domain, but this office can help write a policy as to what discrimination consists of. Currently there is concern that students use charges of discrimination at EMU, because discrimination is not defined.

X. Policies and Procedures Regarding Appointments by the University Senate

The following motion was presented by the Faculty Senate Executive Board as an addition to the resolution on 11-4-09. Faculty on 100% administrative release are not eligible to serve as University Faculty Senate appointees to committees, councils, taskforces, boards, etc.


XI. Motion to Change the Name of the Retention Council

The Faculty Senate Executive Board presented the following motion.

Whereas the motto of EMU is “Education First” and
Whereas the term “retention” might be seen as prioritizing the longevity of a student’s time at Eastern over graduating as soon as possible, therefore Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate urges that the name of the Retention Council be changed to “Student Success Council.” The motion passed unanimously.

XII. Motion to Have Appropriate Internal Searches for Interim Appointments Extended to Part-Time Appointments – Carol Haddad
On October 15, 2008, Faculty Council unanimously passed the following resolution.

Faculty Council strongly objects to the practice of appointing interim administrators without an appropriate internal search. We suggest that a search committee be appointed, that the position be posted internally, and that candidates be screened according to the published criteria for the position.

Carol Haddad proposed that this motion be extended to part-time positions also. The motion is scheduled for vote at the next meeting.

XIII. Renovation/Construction of Swing Space – Provost Jack Kay and David Crary
With respect to the relocation of offices currently in Pray-Harrold, spaces for department offices and for the dean’s office have been located. The spaces will be vetted with the department heads by Thanksgiving.

XIV. Comments by Provost Jack Kay
A. Consolidate Assessment, Program Review, Accreditation, etc. into the Office of Accountability And Institutional Effectiveness
Provost Kay has read the Faculty Council report on Program Review, and he agrees that material used for external accreditation should be reusable for Program Review, albeit that some additional information may be requested for Program Review.

B. Higher Learning Commission
It is important to show that improvements have been made and are coming. The Higher Learning Commission is having representatives come to EMU on March 10 to 12. The Commission was concerned that many faculty were not informed about the Higher Learning Commission Report.

C. Points Made During Subsequent Discussion
• Microsoft Word has been chosen by EMU as the main word processing software. Therefore, it is recommended that software compatible with Microsoft Word be chosen, so that it is possible to “cut-and-paste” and use the “find” function.
• Program Development also can happen in the Office of Accountability and Institutional Effectiveness.
• Provost Kay has joined the Hannover Research Council which engages in creating benchmarks for Program Review.

XV. Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

XVI. Dates of Next Meetings
President Martin is expected to come to the next Faculty Senate meeting. The dates for the next Faculty Senate meetings are 12/2, 12/16 if necessary, 1/6/, 1/20, 2/3, 2/17, 3/17, 4/7, 4/21 if necessary, 5/19 (tentative) and 6/16 (tentative). We should decide whether to meet during Finals week on 12/16
Respectfully submitted,
Alida Westman

Present:  M. Rahman (ACC); R. Woods (AAS); D. Pancioli (ART); R. Winning (BIO); D. Chou (CIS); S. McCracken (CMTA); M. Evett (COSC); L. Kolopajlo (CHEM); D. Crary (ECON); J. Texter (ENGIN TECH); C. Mayda (GEO/GEOL); M. Higbee (HIS/PHIL); S. Levine (HPHP); V. Howells (HEALTH SCI); P. Francis (L & C); J. Nims (LIBRARY); D. Barton (MKT); K. Banerji (MGMT); S. Nelson (NURS); E. Martin (PLS); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); L. Lee (SPED); C. Haddad (STS); M. Bombyk (SWK); M. Zinggeler (WORLD LANGUAGES)

Ex-Officio:  Jack Kay (PROVOST)

Guest:  Jesús Hernández (DIRECTOR OF STUDENT CONDUCT AND COMMITTEE STANDARDS); Glenna Miller (ASST VICE-PRESIDENT OF STUDENT AFFAIRS); Tim Brewer (CHAIR OF GRADUATE COUNCIL)

Absent:  ENG; MATH; MUSIC & DANCE; PHY/AST; TED; WGST