

2011

Faculty Senate Minutes, June 15, 2011

Faculty Senate
Eastern Michigan University

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Minutes of the Faculty Senate

June 15, 2011

3:00-5:00PM, SC310A

Attending: P Koehn (P&A), P Francis (L&C), M Millan (WL), K Kustron (STS), J Texter (SET), S McCracken (CMTA), B Jones (G&G), R Baier (LIB), M Reedy (ART), L Lee (SPED), D Crary (ECON), Elaine Martin (PLSC), B Winning (BIO), G Edwards (CHEM), K Saules (PSYCH), D Barton (MKT/LAW), P Smith (TED), T Brewer (GC), M Higbee (H&P), S Gray (WGST), R Woods (AAS), J Carbone (SHS), R Orrange (SAC), M Bombyk (SWRK), D Chou (CIS), M Evett (COSC)

Also: J Kay, Provost; D Ritzenheim, AHR; B. Warren (Assoc. Provost); G Larcom (Comm.)

1. (3:00) Approval of agenda (approved)
2. (3:05) Approval of minutes of April 6, 2011 and of May 18, 2011 (approved)
3. (3:10) Academic Policy Issues:
 - a. BA/BS Issue
 - i. We can define the BA and let the BS be the default
 - ii. We can define the BS and let the BA be default
 - iii. Define both of them, covering 95% of programs.
 - iv. Current BA - certain amount of foreign language.
 - v. Having depts. And schools define them themselves. A program could qualify by meeting one or more of a list of criteria.
 - vi. Bottom up is a better approach. There should be a general guideline for what qualifies. Bette is willing to facilitate as long as it happens before August.
 - b. Probation Issue: Converting E's to F's
 - i. Plan: try to get the regents to approve revisions, then give them the changes we want to make and have them approve them. Implementation will take time.
 - ii. Anticipation: Changes from E to F and probation revisions will likely go into effect in 2012.
 - c. HEOA textbook compliance issue
 - i. There is no way that by August we can guarantee compliance. B will have to make the recommendation that at least in the meantime we let Follets handle it. It is not perfect, and she'd like to make sure that Follets gets feedback from faculty.
 - d. A recommendation on changing the policy on incompletes [Bette Warren]
 - i. Dir of FA is concerned that incompletes remain incompletes. If we are audited, we could be tagged for artificially padding GPAs. We and CMU are the only ones that do that. We need a form, with a faculty-set deadline and list of activities, and what

the grade would be if some of the activities were not done. The one-year policy is more a matter of how many signatures are needed to push it through. Perhaps the form could be available online.

4. (3:20) The Parking and Transportation Workshop
 - a. Matt reported at the last meeting that there is another group. One of the members of the workshop presented plans for what they might do for parking, etc, and there was much wailing and gnashing of teeth. The union is working on the issue as well.
5. (3:30) Pres. Martin's remarks
 - a. Provost search: Position is posted, 21 applications so far. She requests the appointment of a FS rep, as the committee will likely meet before September.
 - b. Last meeting of the ad hoc budget committee, working to finalize a recommendation for the BoR, trying to reduce administration, etc. They want to support growth, keeping \$1M for strategic growth. 707 Tenure Track faculty. Trying to avoid impacting students. Reducing honoraria and international travel.
 - c. May still authorize faculty searches for the coming year. Trying to minimize the number of layoffs. Strong Hall – there is talk of capital outlay. We are receiving positive feedback concerning our financial restraint, so SM is cautiously optimistic.
 - d. University house: Rumor of new furniture at the university house, it is true – 100 chairs are being ordered for public/U-related events.
 - e. Has asked the U community to schedule events at the house, including guest lodging.
 - f. Fundraising events are happening.
 - g. SM's pay increase: Had one in January, and one is due in July. She's turning that down.
 - h. How will the proceeds of the capital campaign be used? Most of them are restricted, they are encouraging more unrestricted donation.
 - i. Given the legislature's makeup, what would the fallout be if we come up with a 6% increase *for Strong Hall*? She wouldn't recommend that.
 - j. How much of the \$45.7M is in the bank? Some is, some isn't.
 - k. Who are you working with? John Lumm has folks that work for him.
 - l. Is there a specific question that SM would like to ask us? Thoughts about a search firm, interim provosts
 - m. RE the Executive title, we want the person to function in the role, running the university when president is not on campus. The person would earn the title at the end of the year.
 - n. Seems that the biggest source of revenue would be keeping the large percentage of students that leave here. How is this entering into budget concerns in a crisis atmosphere? Board has pushed pretty hard to not touch things that impact students. BoR is requiring regular reports, keeping SM accountable for student

- retention/success. Legislature is pushing for a one-size-fits-all formula, not sure how EMU fits in there.
- o. How are Fall numbers? We are looking low.
 - p. RE the timeline for the provost search: previously there were recommendations made over the summer, with presentation by the candidates happening in the fall. Our goal is to get someone here mid-year.
 - q. When will we hear about the interim provost? She's working on it.
6. (3:45) Provost's remarks [Jack Kay]
- i. Big round of applause for Bob Winning.
 - ii. Presentation of acknowledgement of JK's service.
7. (3:55) Committee reports
- a. Equipment Committee: Still on schedule to be back in PH in the fall. Looks pretty certain there won't be a computer refresh this year. We'll probably need an expanded budget for consumables (bulbs) and repairs. Did a survey on classroom equipment, will be wrapping it up in the fall.
8. (4:00) President's Remarks
- a. First FS meeting of Fall 2011 is Sept. 7
 - b. Board of Regents meets 6/21