

2006

Faculty Council Minutes, June 7, 2006

Faculty Council
Eastern Michigan University

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UNIVERSITY FACULTY COUNCIL MINUTES – MEETING FIFTEEN

June 7, 2006, 3 – 5 p.m.

Tower Room, McKenny Union

www.emich.edu/facultycouncil

daryl.barton@emich.edu

487-0196

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the minutes of May 10, 2006

The minutes were approved with one correction. III.D. should read Academic Affairs Facility Planning Committee.

III. Committee Appointments

General Education Director Selection Committee

Chrissie Frye from COB cannot serve. Matt Sauber was appointed to serve in her place.

IV. Guest: John Fallon, III – President of EMU

A. Shared Governance, Faculty Council By-laws

President Fallon signed the Faculty Council By-laws. He also signed a statement which indicates that he supports Shared Governance with faculty and that he will abide by the University Faculty Council By-laws. Daryl Barton will forward a copy of the signed statement to EMU-AAUP and to the Provost.

B. Budget

At the June 20, 2006, meeting of the Board of Regents, it is expected that the Fiscal Year 2006 budget will be continued for another month, so that it is possible to determine by how much other institutions in Michigan are raising tuition. On July 20, 2006, there will be a special meeting of the Board of Regents to approve the FY 2007 budget. A third of the budget comes from state support, and this proportion is expected to be increased at a rate below inflation with an increase between 1.8 and 2.9% over last year. Further, there are increases in costs which are not under the university's control, such as the utilities budget. Enrollment for 2006-2007 is assumed to be flat. Room and Board is increased by 4% in the Village, held steady in many dorms, and decreased by 8% for the Westview apartments in order to be more competitive with other off-campus housing units. A Budget Development Committee is beginning in September to develop a 2-year plan.

Questions (or Comments) and Replies

Question: With a 2-year plan it is more difficult to flexibly incorporate new ideas, especially because the Above Base Budget Requests are no longer part of the budget. Reply: Yes, this is true, and this needs to be considered.

Question: When there are budget cuts, it is not clear whether other areas, such as athletics, also are cut. Reply: It is not clear how the funding of athletics at EMU compares with funding at other universities, whether the funding is behind that of other universities, or not.

Question: It seems that support staff has been cut disproportionately, and there is a question whether administrators now are forced to act as expensive support staff. Reply: This is why the Budget Development Committee is going to work in September, to ensure that resources are used effectively.

Question: Is it possible to have students pay a modest fee, such as \$25, when they are on a field placement, so that there is money to reimburse the supervising faculty member who needs to travel to the placement? Currently the reimbursement is from travel funds, and this leaves no money to reimburse people for traveling to a conference, even when they are presenting at this conference. Reply: This should be looked into.

C. New Way of Organizing the Budget

Accounts will no longer be kept separate, for example, the general and auxiliary funds. Similarly, the technology and general fees will be listed in one budget. So the budget will move from about 212 million to about 240 million.

Question: Will the monies for a specific purpose still be used for this purpose?

Answer: Yes

D. Ethics and Compliance Whistle Blowing by Faculty and Staff

An anonymous whistle-blowing process will be introduced which makes possible the reporting of abuses, but with feedback to the specific whistleblower, so that the program is not used for revenge. Faculty raised concerns due to the findings that whistleblower programs tend not to work; however, President Fallon indicated that it is important to make problems known before they can become public relations problems for the university, of which the University House is an example.

E. Website

The intent is to make the website more user friendly. Also departments and schools are going to have more control over their own website.

Question: Is it possible at the sign-in page to the e-mail system to show a photo which makes students aware of different services being offered by EMU, such as the Holman Learning Center, the Writing Center, etc.? This would permit students to feel more welcomed and supported. Answer: No, this is not possible.

However, individual departments and schools will have more control over their own website.

Question: Do the websites of the different schools, departments, etc. need to look the same? Answer: Yes, the basic pattern will be the same, but individual departments and schools will have control over their own website, and an intermediary is not needed.

F. Other issue raised by Faculty: Faculty are Overloaded; University Needs to Prioritize

Faculty engage in service, but at the moment there are too many activities happening at the same time which demand a great deal of attention and interact with each other. Specifically, vetting Gen Ed courses requires a huge amount of work and may lead to reorganization at EMU. The Reorganization Committee also wants to reorganize EMU. Further, engaging in such activities as are needed for accreditation is critically important. Prioritizing these activities is very important, and the accreditation activities are the most important.

V. Guests: Kate Mehuron, Bob Neely, Hartmut Hofmann, and David Mielke – Academic Affairs Realignment

This presentation to Faculty Council is for feedback on the proposal and the feedback forms. The feedback from University Faculty Council is due this coming Tuesday, and it will be incorporated for a draft to be presented to the campus

community during the Fall term. The feedback obtained during the Fall term will be incorporated, and then the proposal will be presented to the provost at the end of the Fall term.

The current effort is only to promote ideas for reorganization. There will be a different committee to oversee implementation and work out the details.

Reorganization is a management prerogative; however, evaluation by administration is contractual and will have to be negotiated with EMU-AAUP. Further, if there is reorganization, this will affect the input systems which the councils provide, and how faculty input will be achieved with the reorganization will have to be a part of any recommendation.

The proposals and feedback forms are available on the Faculty Council website, and the appendices are available at <http://www.emich.edu/public/aa/aaartf>

VI. Computer Refresh Proposed Policy Statement

This will be addressed further in the Fall term of 2006; there was not enough time at this Faculty Council meeting to consider this issue.

VII. Support for the Faculty Development Center

The Faculty Development Center is being asked to provide more services, especially for beginning faculty members, even as the budget is being cut. The Faculty Development Advisory Committee requested the support of Faculty Council in their effort to secure the funding for the services requested.

The motion to support the increased funding for the Faculty Development Center, so that the services requested can be performed, passed (25 – 1 – 1).

VIII. Quests: Bob Holkeboer and Caryn Charter – Export Controls and Embargoes

There are federal guidelines for individuals and institutions with respect to what can be sent or taken along to foreign countries. A checklist, annual presentation, self-training module and FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) on the website will be prepared.

Faculty Council supported the motion that a Committee on Export Controls and Embargoes be formed, so that EMU and individuals at EMU will be compliant with federal requirements.

IX. Updates

A. University Calendars 2009 – 2010 and 2010 – 2011

The number of weeks in each term was counted and found to meet the federal guidelines.

B. Courses completely vetted for Gen Ed according to Bill Miller's records.

Very few courses have been completely vetted, and unless the vetting process can be modified, the Gen Ed program cannot begin any time soon, because there are far too few courses.

C. Saudi Students

There is a concern that the Saudi students coming to EMU do not yet know English. Courtney McAnuff (VP of Enrollment Services), Hartmut Høft (Dean of CAS), and Elisabeth Morgan (Head of FLABS) are flying to Washington D.C. to meet with the Saudi Cultural Staff to work out details.

D. Physical plant updates

Many changes have been made. These include changes to increase security on campus, upgrades to buildings and dorms, etc. Also, further activities are being planned. The complete listing will be available on the Faculty Council website.

X. Announcements

The **First University Faculty Council meeting** for the 2006- 2007 Academic Year will be held on September 6, 2006, from 3 to 5 p.m., in the Tower Room of McKenny Union.

The **First University Faculty Council Executive Board meeting** for the 2006-2007 Academic Year will be held during the last week of August. The date will be announced later.

Daryl Barton has arranged for **meeting places during the coming year** when McKenny Union is being remodeled. We will meet in the Tower room through October 4, except on September 20 when we will meet in the Main Lounge. October 18, we meet on the fifth floor of the REC IM building. November 1 we meet in 300 Halle. From November 15 through April 2007, we are scheduled for a room in the new Student Center.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Alida Westman

Present: V. Okafor (AFS); M. Reedy (ART); M. Coffman (BIOL); R. Nord (CHEM); L. Stille (CTA); M. Evett (COSC); D. Crary (ECON); I. Ahmad (CIS); D. Mihaly (FLABS); S. Rutherford (GEO/GEOL); L. Watson (HIS/PHIL); D. Clifford (HEALTH SCI); D. Haddad (TECH STUDIES); G. Mitchell (ENGIN TECH); E. Broughton (L & C); R. Baier (Halle); J. Waltman (MGMT); D. Barton (MKT); J. Jones (MATH); J. R. Smith (MUS/DANCE) J. Porter (PHY/AST); E. Martin (PLS); A. Westman (PSY); R. Orrange (SAC); M. Brombyk (SWK); L. Lee (SPED); S. Norton (WMST).

Absent: ACC; ENGL; HPHP; NURS; TED

Ex-Officio: D. Loppnow (PROVOST & V.P. FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS); N. Contis (ASSOCIATE V.P. FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND CURRICULUM)

Guests: J. Fallon, III (PRESIDENT OF EMU); K. Mehuron (CO-CHAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE REALIGNMENT TASKFORCE); R. Neely (INTERIM SENIOR ASSOCIATE VP OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS); H. Høft (DEAN OF CAS); D. Mielke (DEAN OF COB); R. Holkeboer (ASSOCIATE VP OF GRADUATE STUDIES); Caryn Carter (ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT); P. Zimmer (CHAIR, GRADUATE COUNCIL)