

2-28-2018

Faculty Senate Minutes, February 28, 2018

Faculty Senate



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Faculty Senate Minutes

Session-10

3.00—5.00 pm February 28th, 2018 300A Student Center

Present: Quiel, Bluhm, Rahman, Pressley-Sanon, Francis, Carpenter, Reedy, Eisenbach, Edwards, Kashliev, Hayworth, Neufeld, Moore, Crary, Doan, Foster, Pawlowski, Bonem, McTague, Stauton, Millan, Spragg, Trewn, Willis, Chou, Bari

Guests: Longworth, Carroll, Kullberg, Borum

I. Approval of the Agenda

3:00 pm Approved

II. Approval of the Minutes 02-14-18

3:05 pm

Approved

III. Discussions:

A. Academic Issues Committee – Chair: Dave Powloski

3:10 PM

- First Reading: Charges for the Faculty Senate Committee on Academic Issues
Please review and prepare to discuss next meeting.

B. Global Engagement Council – Co-Chairs: Judith Kulberg and Shiri Vivek

3:20 PM

- Issues, Priorities, Concerns

BOR approved the GEC. Became a committee of the Senate to set up Center and then advisory to Center. Center established in 2014. This year the council decided things are moving too slowly. They have a plan to move things along. The primary barriers are resources to put plan in place. They intend to meet with faculty across campus. Challenges: coordination and information sharing, resources, establishing relationship with Administration. **Handout was distributed.**

Questions/discussion

Q:What funding is needed? A: research, partnerships, study abroad. There is no funding for the Center, just for the Senior International Officer (SIO). Longworth: When SIO was funded, we knew there would be no money left. Kullberg: Last year the GEC was told there would be SIO funding and Center funding. Her recollection of this is different than the Provost. Chou said there is no money for the center. Longworth: There is money there, just not for the center. They were existing funds used for international programs he oversees. Previous Provost did make the commitment (RL) but there was no money attached and there can be no new money designated to it.

Calls for work groups and volunteers will be forthcoming. Provost and President will meet with GEC on April 4. Can we hear from the SIO? Quiel will invite him.

C. **Faculty Senate Budget Committee** —Chair: Rob Carpenter

3:30 pm

Guest: Jim Carroll, Associate Provost, Division of Academic and Student Affairs

- Updates on budget cut proposals—Academic Division and University
- Academic Affairs Budget & FSBC—The Twain Shall Meet?

Response to Faculty Senate Budget Committee (FSBC) questions in handout from Carroll (distributed)

Carroll and questions from senators:

- EMU has a budget problem. HLC ratios have been below 1 since 2012. The worst one is reserves to operating budget. If we get out of it this year it will be due to the parking privatization. Healthy university is at or above 3. Colleges have been running a deficit for 2 years due to credit hours decline. Privatization results in money in EMU reserves. That's why we did it.
- Provost does take FSBC recommendations seriously – yes. There are recommendations he can't do anything about, such as cutting athletics. They have no authority to address athletics finances. Executive Council (EC) advises President on this, but the Council does not vote. It advises the President. There are about 14 members; 3 are academic affairs reps. There are no faculty representatives. Provost speaks to academic side of things on the EC and agrees with faculty on athletic budget and spending.
- Q: Then where do we advocate about this: A: University Budget Council (UBC) (Chair of FSBC sits on UBC)
- Carpenter was told the parking money will be allocated to Sill, \$20 million to athletics, and \$16 million to Rec IM. It will come from \$78 million in bonds. Take out variable rate bonds because they're cheaper and then they do swaps.
- State used to provide 75% of our budget. Now it's 25%. EMU is also very dependent on the Pell grant program (which Congress may cut by 50%).
- What are responses of Council members when Provost brings up problems with athletic spending. A: It's complicated. Contracts we've signed are part of it. Colleges have adapted in ways the rest of the university has not. Challenge to walk away from commitments to athletics. Carroll and Longworth believe there is a culture of importance of athletics and the perceived value it brings to EMU.
- Timelines: see slides in **handout**.
- 10 of the 37 positions recommended for cuts were vacant positions. These reductions are in progress.
- Comments:
 - cuts impact faculty. We'd like to have some input into that.
 - need to discuss additional sources of revenue. Faculty input is crucial.

Carpenter: A drop of 9000 credit hours is not a \$7 million cut. We want a voice in these choices. RL: There was reluctance to accept what the numbers needed to be. No one wants to make these cuts. Carpenter: We can't give input if we don't know what's going on. Carroll: Didn't know till last minute that there would be cuts. Thought we'd do the usual thing, which is – "oh, well, we have a deficit". They knew there was a big deficit, but not that we'd do anything about it. Q: Is the answer to question 10 "yes"? Longworth and Carroll: A – Yes.

Carroll: There will still be a budget deficit this year.

Q: What are the biggest factors driving reluctance to act and adjusting to new realities? Longworth -Budget building needs to be more participatory. Should be longer term. Faculty need a role. There is a human cost to cuts. That's been the hardest thing. Thought they were on a track to reduce deficit but credit hour losses discovered in Winter were much larger than expected.

D. Data Retention Policy

4: 30 pm

- Final Recommendation to Associate Provost and VP of Graduate Studies
Wade Tornquist and Sonia Chawla, Research Compliance Officer
This discussion will wait till next meeting.

IV. Provost Minutes: Rhonda Longworth

4:40 pm

- Distinguished Faculty Awards – end of March. Encourage attendance.
- Tenure and Reappointment Process
- Leadership Searches – Three important leadership position searches are underway. Please participate.

Comments expressed about FSEB draft minutes that were distributed inadvertently. Vote of no confidence was referenced. Senator proposed consideration of this by the Senate. Longworth and Carroll left the meeting so faculty could discuss.

To be silent is to be complicit with this lack of leadership. President needs to know faculty are beyond disappointed with his lack of leadership. Let's ask him to outline what he has done for faculty and EMU more broadly, since he has come to campus. How much money has he raised? There has been a large reduction in African America student enrollment, larger than white student decline. Can be attributed to poor decisions which cost the University \$1.5 million

-Why not find as many targets as possible for cuts rather than as few as possible?

-Faculty expressed serious concerns about the values and priorities of leadership as reflected in the ongoing financial problems and high priority assigned to funding athletics.

-Perhaps a vote of no confidence is in order because leaders are not listening and things are bad. Request to consider this at another meeting (as it was after 5pm). **Gauge support from faculty and be sure Senate has the votes for no confidence before taking such a vote.**

V. Announcements:

4:55 pm

- Consolidated List of University Committees – FSEB Deb Willis
- 11th session of the senate on March 14th:
 - Guest - President Jim Smith – accepted this invitation
 - Room Change to SC 320

VI. Adjourn

5:15 pm

