

2004

Faculty Council Minutes, February 4, 2004

Faculty Council
Eastern Michigan University

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FACULTY COUNCIL
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Faculty Council Meeting
faculty.council@emich.edu
February 4, 2004
Recorder: E. Broughton

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm.
- II. The Minutes of 21-January-04 were approved with corrections.
- III. Appointments
 - A. Clarification regarding University Technology Advisory Committee (UTAC)
 1. Imtiaz Ahmad
 2. Debi Silverman
 3. Paul Leighton (Alternate)
 4. Gisela Ahlbrandt (Alternate)
 - B. Faculty Council Procedures Committee
 1. Kathy Chamberlain (Chair)
 2. Jim Porter
 3. Liz Broughton
 4. Sally McCracken (resource)
 - C. Budget FY05 Administrative Unit Reorganization Committee - FCEB
Jeff Armstrong
- IV. Guests
 - A. Provost Schollaert
 1. The Provost presented potential University cuts and expense increases. Several factors are affecting the budget:
 - a. \$4 Million reduction in December
 - b. MPSERS costs, health care increases
 - c. Other increases (utilities, etc.)
 2. Budget plans for 2005 have more significant challenges.
 - a. \$3.9 Million may be reduced permanently
 - b. Tuition increases unclear. 2% increase for institutions of higher education in Michigan from Governor's plan.
 - c. MPSERS might increase by \$1 Million.
 - d. Personnel cost increases – Faculty Union & others
 - e. Utilities costs
 3. Revenue Challenges include:
 - a. Tuition increases
 - b. Fees
 - c. Enrollment growth
 4. Strategies for 2005 Budget:
 - a. Develop a webpage to regularly communicate with faculty regarding budget issues
 - b. Budget Planning Committees have been organized with FC representatives
 5. Questions from FC
 - 1). Is there a freeze on new hires? No, there is a committee looking at this.
 - 2). Where did the funds from early retirement plan go? This was not a cost saving program.
 - 3). What is the current student/faculty ratio? Currently, EMU is 20:1
 - 4). No offers have been extended, yet.
 - 5). Concern about utilities – Turn off lights more.
 - 6). Fees have been raised in Foreign Language, but no improvements have been observed.
 - 7). Climate on campus is uncertain on several issues.

V. Faculty Issues

A. Technology

1. WebCT-Companion issue discussed. A survey will be sent to faculty who attended a WebCT training seminar. E-Companion will be discontinued at the end of Winter semester.
2. There seems to be communication issues between ICT and CE. Need to communicate to the decision-makers there is a problem with faculty concerns versus technology and CE.
3. Request for a motion for not canceling the searches.
4. Diminishing Academic Affairs resources in terms of searches, technology, faculty lines.
5. Motion by Susan Moeller to draft resolution by FCEB to protest the potential canceling of current searches. Seconded by Jim Porter. Motion withdrawn.
6. Motion for faculty to communicate with ICT in the decision-making process. Motion unanimously supported.

B. Classroom Upgrade Project

1. Discussion on classroom upgrade project. A committee of Academic Administrators developed a plan without faculty input.
2. FCEB has worked on a Faculty Building survey – specifically through Gisela Ahlbrandt.
3. Input system is not working: faculty searches and technology are 2 major issues. Junior faculty may leave if technology and classroom environment issues continue.
4. There is a concern about Athletic budget.
5. Motion that failure to fill faculty searches will be detrimental to university's mission. Motion unanimously passed.
6. A discussion about the survey was made. Add safety & health guidelines.

C. Late registration in classes

1. There is a problem with ICT and registration. Department deadlines differ by a week. Students selling registration spots.

D. Institutes & Centers Policy & Procedure

1. FC should review these websites.

E. Textbook list – tabled until 18-February-04

F. Graduate Council – Faculty Workload Survey

A survey has been developed regarding faculty workload. Request: all faculty please participate.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. By-Laws Committee

1. Proposed revisions will be presented soon.

B. General Education Reform

1. A form was developed for General Education reform comments.
2. Please send department or individual comments by Feb. 6th, 2004 to faculty.council@emich.edu or 104 Pierce Hall.

IX. Meeting Adjourned at 4:58pm.

Present: S. Moeller ACC; V Okafor AFS; M Ruggiero ART; S Sonstein AHP; H. Zot BIOL; T McDole BTE; T Brewer CHEM; S McCracken CTA; S Haynes COSC; J Knapp ENGL; I Ahmad CIS; M Zinggeler FLABS; C Mayda GEO/GEOG; D Silverman HECR; J Armstrong HPERD; K Chamberlain HIS/PHIL; C Haddad INDT; G Mitchell IT; E Broughton L&C; R Baier HALLE; D Barton MKT; G Ahlbrandt MATH; V Benitez MUSC; P Alford NURS; J Porter PHY/AST; B Grady PLS; A Westman PSY; R Orrange SAC; L Lee SPED; M Wedenoja SWK; C Burns TED; K Sinclair WMST; P Zimmer; R Vandervelde. **Absent:** ECON.