2014

Faculty Senate Minutes, April 16, 2014

Faculty Senate
Eastern Michigan University

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1. Agenda approval – some changes, but approved unanimously
2. Approval of minutes of 4/2/2014 meeting – Change: D. Foster (M&D) was present. Minutes approved, unanimous
3. Visitor: Randall Ward, Director, Disability Resource Center
   - DRC is a partner and resource for Faculty
   - R. Ward is “updating” the processes of the DRC
   - R. Ward will return to FS in the fall to discuss issues and ideas faculty has surrounding the DRC
   - Discussion regarding “Incompletes” for students who are struggling with health issues during the semester – R. Ward reiterated that the Incomplete Process was not to be used as a solution to various problems of this nature. He put in a plea for Faculty and Students to work with the DRC when health issues arise during the semester.
   - Some discussion regarding social justice, civil rights, and stigmas surrounding disability issues.
4. Committee Reports
   - Academic Issues: General Education Review Committee (Koolage)
     (a) No meeting since the last FS meeting.
   - Institutional Issues:
     (a) LMS Selection Committee (Barton)
       1. RFPs is being formed
       2. Some predictions were made about how the decision may turn out.
     (b) Textbook Alternatives (Baier)
       1. http://guides.emich.edu/alt-texts
       2. Lengthy discussion of textbook issues
5. Motion (P. Smith, M. McVey): We, the Faculty Senate of Eastern Michigan University, acknowledge, support, recognize, and congratulate EMU’s Department of Special Education, the oldest department in the United States
preparing teachers and professionals to work with people with disabilities, as it celebrates its 100th Anniversary on May 17, 2014. – Approved, unanimously
- COE website has details regarding a celebration on May 17th. Check it out!

6. Committee appointments
- Announcement of election for new Faculty Senate officers for 2014-15: Vice-President, Secretary, Membership Coordinator.
  (a) Vice President – P. Francis (nominated)
  (b) Secretary –
  (c) Membership Secretary –
  (a) Academic IT Advisory Committee
    1. R. Baier (Fac Sen) elected
  (b) Computer Refresh
    1. Z. Bahorski (CAS) elected, L. Zhang (CAS) elected
  (c) EEFC
    1. P. Lemerand (CHHS) elected, J. Carbone (Alternate) elected
  (d) E-Fellows
  (e) FDC Advisory Committee
    1. A. Allen (CAS) elected
  (f) Gen Ed Course Vetting
    1. B. Currans (US Diversity) elected, M. Bluhm (CHHS) elected
  (g) Gen Ed Evaluation/Assessment
    1. W.D. Baker (CAS) elected
  (h) Gen Ed Review
  (i) Judicial Appeals Board
    1. K. Woodiel (HPHP) elected
  (j) Library Advisory Council
    1. B. Booker (COT) elected, A. Pandey (COB) elected

7. Degree Completion and Retention Plan (Rhonda Longworth)
- Handout (Koolage has this)
- Highlights: (a) Attention to mentoring by Faculty, (b) attention to “early alert” processes, and (c) assessing and coordinating existing efforts
- Discussion regarding Co-Curricular Transcripts, University College, Faculty Mentorship, focus on Single Parent issues
- Discussion regarding the “marathon, not sprint” model for this plan, and its implementation; this plan is also to be considered a “living document” that can be revised, amended, and so on
- Discussion regarding the two target populations, whether there should be more and so on; it was noted that these are just two starting target groups, the list could grow
- Discussion regarding the role of knowledge and access to knowledge in retention and success

8. Provost’s remarks:
• The Provost asked FS (and Faculty) to identify areas where the Provost’s Office could communicate better with Faculty, so that the Provost’s Office could facilitate this

Leigh Greden, EMU VP Government and Community Relations

• Higher Education = Employment
• State Funding per Year: per prisoner $46000, per college student $6000
• A copy of this presentation will be available in the next week or so by way of the FS President
• FS proposes having L. Greden back to talk more about this; invitation accepted!

9. Discussion of Senate as a “Deliberative Body” (Rahman)
10. Discussion regarding a Senate email list (Rahman)
11. President’s remarks: University committee membership
   (i) Membership secretary: membership_sec@emich.edu
   (ii) Reviewing website: www.emich.edu/facultysenate/committee
   (iii) Faculty Senate meetings for 2014-15.

12. Adjournment

The next Faculty Senate meeting will be held in SC room 310A on May 21, 2014. The next Faculty Senate Executive Board meeting will be held in room SC room 304 on May 14, 2014.