



## *Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes*

March 28, 2018

### **I. Call to order**

Vance called to order the regular meeting of the Faculty Senate at 3:35pm on March 28, 2018 in Lucy Philips 108. (Vice President Vance Larsen chaired the meeting as President Nick Marsing was not able to attend)

### **II. Roll call**

The following persons were present: Shawna Cole, Jonathan Bodrero, Larry Smith, Jeff Carney, Erick Faatz, Danni Larsen, Dean Brereton, Allan Stevens, Chad Price, and Vance Larsen. Micah Strait was present again by invitation.

### **III. Approval of minutes from last meeting**

Erick motions with minor revision about Vance; Jeff seconds. Unanimous vote to approve minutes for February 28, 2018.

### **IV. Good News**

The note taker was not was not taking notes at this time. For fear of leaving something out minutes will not reflect this short discussion.

### **V. Committee Reports**

**A. Honors:** Recently a recognition dinner acknowledged one of the largest graduating groups; 19 students will graduate. They have had a lot of students and faculty involved with interdisciplinary courses.

**B. Curriculum Committee:** Continue working on approving a large volume of syllabi. 121 have been approved

**C. Service Learning:** Dr. Hood is still meeting with people to examine reasons why the committee has been having challenges.

**D. Global Engagement:** not met recently. Fulbright scholar experiences were positive

**E. Library committee:** no report

**F. Professional Track:** plan to meet in next 1-2 week for reviewing those requesting advancement.

**G. Advancement & Tenure:** Sheryl Bodrero presented the latest draft of the new A & T document to the members. The task force and deans will review and prepare the draft to present to the faculty.

H. TTC: The main areas of focus is assisting the faculty in meeting ADA compliance and increasing Canvas use among faculty. There is training prepared and waiting for utilization. The committee role is that of support not enforcement of any decisions by other groups.

I. Faculty Development:

It was mentioned that the Retention Committee as a long list of goals and ideas that will be narrowed and prioritized in the upcoming weeks.

J. College council: No one present that could report

## VI. Introduce Shawna Cole

A. Shawna agreed to represent the adjuncts on the senate. She requested a delay in commenting further about this appointment, her vision, or questions until some personal family medical concerns may be resolved. This discussion will be revisited in the next meeting.

## VII. Next meeting

A. Members discussed briefly the advantages and disadvantages of the dates with conflicts. The consensus reached was for one meeting in April on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday. Jonathan made the motion; Shawna seconded. Voting was unanimous in favor. The next meeting will be April 18, 2018.

## VIII. Extended Leave for Illness Policy

A. Randy was not able to attend the meeting. Vance asked if there was any discussion on this matter. Eric stated there were some issues or concerns about a few items as the document reads presently. The specific concerns mentioned were about the details of the 5-year rotation and the instance where two employees in the family required leave. There might need to be additional detail for this circumstance. These questions would be best directed to the HR department and Randy.

B. The group requested deferment until Randy could be present to discuss it.

## IX. Mid-Term Grade Process

A. This topic continued from the previous meeting where the members requested additional information about faculty not currently using Canvas for posting grades. Micah returned with a 3-page document of tables with sections, subjects, and unnamed faculty with their respective Canvas utilization.

B. According to the provided data: There are some compelling numbers of faculty that are not using Canvas that give, "D's", "F's", "I's", and "W's". Of the top 10 professors issuing these grades, 42% were not recorded in Canvas. The estimated number of students that have these grades which are not recorded in Canvas is 800-900. These students may not have early intervention by student success because they are not reported in Canvas.

C. The data sets were difficult to compare across the tables. There were other concerns that the presented data may be skewed or misrepresentative due to individual practices, small sections, overlapping courses, and several other possibilities.

D. The possibility of not knowing information about adjuncts usage poses a threat to the validity and reliability of the data.

E. The department chairs may be able to ascertain the details about their faculty. They can discover if there is Canvas use not depicted in this report, how Canvas is utilized, and if it is not used-Why? They could encourage Canvas use supported by Dr. Hood's strong endorsement. The chairs may provide feedback as to how best to manage the non-users. They may learn how they could be converted to the system or decide if they should be allowed to continue to retirement in the near future.

F. Vance and Alan mentioned ideas of how the non-users may be persuaded to participate. The general theme of ensuing comments were to present the reasons or ways this helps students succeed. Again, the department chairs could assist in the transition and allow TA's to help enter grades, for example.

G. There was a discussion of appropriateness of requiring at least the use of the grade book in Canvas. Some faculty have their own preferred methods and do not like Canvas for this reason. Larry mentioned historically such tools were not useful and faculty prefer grading the way they feel works best for them. Another question to Micah was if there would be an unintended message that students do not have to check the course in Canvas if they would be getting updates from student success. The term "mandate", was not well supported and some members felt there could be infringement on academic freedom if the senate demanded Canvas use.

H. The discussion concluded with a summary of ideas for the next step in the matter of grades and faculty use of Canvas. Larry motioned that that, through Dean's Council, department chairs will discover the details of faculty Canvas use, what barriers exist to Canvas use, and have a report back to the senate by April 11<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Jonathan and confirmed with a unanimous vote.

#### **X. Requirement for all faculty to use the official Snow College email**

A. Members all agreed there is a need for consistency in communication with students.

B. The feelings of most, if not all members on this matter was this it did not constitute an infringement on academic freedom and it was a reasonable requirement to use Snow's email system. There were some issues reported that the forwarding feature may not always work properly. These issues would be self-limiting and did not present a substantive barrier for all to use the official email.

C. Alan made the motion that all faculty would be required to read and respond via the Snow College email system regularly. Further clarification during the subsequent discussion was that deans and chairs would determine how to define "regularly". They would also be in a position to ensure compliance. The motion was seconded by Dean, followed by a unanimous vote in favor.

#### **IX. Adjournment**

Vancemade the motion to adjourn, seconded by Larry, followed by a unanimous affirmative vote.

Vance adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m. -Minutes submitted by: Dean Brereton