

Assembly Meeting – Faculty Consortium

Minutes – October 17, 2014

The meeting began at 11:29 AM.

I. Present were:

- i Wayne McGowan (A), Rob Klinger (A), Bill Lockhart (A), Noel Romero (A), Kim Lopez-Gallagher (A), Sherrell Wheeler, Gloria Villaverde (A), Pete Eidenbach (A), Carrie Baldwin (A), John Haley, Laurie Joslin (A), Tanya Allred, and Kathy Roark-Diehl. [A = Assembly Member]
- i Minutes from the September 18, 2014, meeting were accepted.

II. Academic Council and APAC Reports

- i Rob sent out his usual e-mail report prior to the meeting. He only added that the entire university is in the process of changing the promotion and tenure policy. There will be no concrete decision about how the Allocation of Effort will be changed until the new policy is in place.

III. Faculty Senate Report

- i Kathy added that the promotion and tenure revisions are in the stages where everything is up in the air. Virtually all levels have reported issues with the processes.
- i Alamogordo's proposed Allied Health Associates Degree died in the subcommittee for lack of financial information. The program needs a complete budget prior to approval.
- i The proposal to increase community college representation at the Senate failed. The proposal was to add two more representatives for each branch. The problem is that representation from the Las Cruces campus is based on number of faculty members in each college. Based on that formula, Doña Ana would add eight senators, but none of the other branches would increase. Another issue is that representatives from Grants and Carlsbad rarely attend. They discussed the possibility of using Skype for distant members. Kathy will write all this up when there is resolution.

IV. Subcommittee Reports

- i The Subcommittee on Adjunct Faculty Issues provided us with a five-page handout (see attachment) of suggestions aimed at the future goals of the committee, ideas to help adjuncts, and a faculty mentoring program. As part of the discussion, three motions were placed on the floor, and we agreed unanimously on each of them.
 1. The ad hoc Subcommittee on Adjunct Faculty Issues should become a standing committee. Two members of the ad hoc committee have already agreed to serve on the permanent committee, and it is likely that others will also continue. The group may want to create a second committee for mentoring.
 2. The subcommittee motioned that the Assembly support items 2-5 on page 1 of the handout. Much discussion ensued including about mentoring, including both adjuncts and new permanent faculty members
 3. The subcommittee further motioned that the chair of the Assembly should take the seven issues enumerated on page 2 of the handout to either Academic Council or the Vice President of Academic Affairs. It was agreed that the chair would select the most appropriate venue. It was noted that two items are already under discussion by administration. A proposed \$250 per credit hour honorarium is being suggested for adjunct faculty who complete an external Quality Matters review. In addition, a raise of \$25 per credit hour is being considered for adjuncts.
- i The All-Campus e-mail list is being revised and will be placed under the aegis of one person. Academic Council supports the idea of sending important messages via the All-Campus e-mail. We also discussed how many people are not reading e-mail because there is so much “junk” on that venue. We motioned to creating an e-mail etiquette and recreate a newsletter similar to the one that was so capably managed by Jim Gallagher in the past. All of the “congratulations” e-mails could be eliminated by listing all accomplishments in the newsletter. The motion pass unanimously.
- i The Subcommittee on Division Head/Assistant Division Head Evaluation has completed its first draft of a form for faculty to fill out annually. We discussed the form, but the committee will make revisions before sending the proposed forms for faculty approval.
- i The Hiring Freeze committee is formulating a request for information to take to the next Academic Council.

V. New Items

- i The administration has proposed the possibility of making a change in the academic structure of the campus. Ryan will send out prompts to the faculty soon. We discussed how the current ADH system is a drain on the faculty. Each ADH and (several other positions) remove faculty members from active teaching and place them in administrative or semi-administrative positions – but their academic (teaching) position is not replaced.

VI. Additional Items

- i Late registration has been a hot topic at our branch. We were presented with a possible form to be filled out prior to the semester. The form addresses faculty preferences for late registration. The Assembly unanimously motioned to endorse the document.
- i Faculty are encouraged to send feedback on the Quality Matters multi-section review.

The next meeting will follow the faculty meeting on November 14, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 PM.

Minutes approved:

Rob Klinger, Chair

Bill Lockhart, Secretary