

CAPITAL COLLEGE FACULTY SENATE
MINUTES
February 26, 2010

Attendees:

Capital College Senators: S. Agili, J. Harris, R. Luquis, G. McGuigan, M. Strickland, E. Taylor, R. Veder, M. Wilson, and S. Wolpert

Administrators Present: M. Hanes, M. Kulkarni

Absent: F. Ahmed, N. Bayraktar, B. Ran, J. Ruiz

Matthew Wilson, Senate President, opened the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

A. Minutes Approval for Faculty Senate Meeting

1. Wilson opened the meeting by requesting a motion to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2010 meeting. A motion was made by Luquis/Taylor to approve the minutes as written and they were unanimously approved

B. Minutes Approval for Academic Affairs Meeting

1. A motion was made by Veder/? to approve the minutes from the February 16, 2010 and meetings and was unanimously approved.

I. Unfinished Business

Dr. John Hoh was moved ahead on the agenda:

1. Reviewed what is new at PS Harrisburg. All this information can be found on the ITS website. They have completed 16 classroom updates this year. Plans are underway to build new collaboration spaces in library. Students can work on presentations and practice giving them. Also they would like to set up similar spaces in lobby areas on the second and third floors of Olmsted. Testing will be done on the 3rd floor so that ITS can monitor how the students are using the space. Hoh also highlighted that the ITS help desk in the basement will be upgraded and the long hallway will be made into an art gallery.
2. The university is trying to remove all personal information from university computers (SSN, driver's license numbers, credit card numbers or other banking accounts.) The university will begin using IdentifyFinder.com, which will be downloaded to your computer through the campus network. An icon will be present on the desktop and when clicked, it will perform scans on hard drives and any other equipment for personal information. When the scan is complete, it will provide faculty with a report, where they will be able to remove the offending document, eliminate the offending information or create a white list (indicating the information is necessary to the faculty member's job.) University Park will receive the results of the scan. UP will simply see the number of hits (not what they are) and will check monthly to see if the number of offenses go down. Roll out could be as soon as a month from now. University laptops will need to be protected as well. That will be done through software that can be downloaded to each laptop.

C. Communications to the Senate

None

D. Report of the Senate President

1. Wilson wanted to thank the administration for their promptness in cancelling during recent snowstorms.

E. Comments by the Chancellor

1. Hanes reported that enrollment is up by 252 students for the Spring 2010 semester compared to Spring 2009. This increase is due primarily to the increased enrollment realized in Fall 2009. Admissions for Fall 2010 are on track. Direct offers (PSU applicants seeking PSH admission as their first choice) are up three. The campus currently is down in referrals, as is the case with all the larger PSU campus colleges. The latter is due in part to a planned increase in admissions of first-year students at University Park. University Park admitted 6,788 first-year students in AY 2009/2010; in 2010/2011 University Park will be admitting 7,350 first-year students.
2. PSH had two students participate in THON, Tori Haney (BSED) and T.J. Legel (Mechanical Engineering). THON raised over \$7.8 million for children's cancer research; our student participants contributed \$12,000 to the funds raised.
3. The School of Public Affairs held a celebrative event last Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Three milestones in the Public Administration were celebrated: the ten year anniversary of the Ph.D. program in Public Administration; the reaccreditation of the Masters in Public Administration; and the soon-to-be launched, online program in Homeland Security and Defense. The Honorable Tom Ridge was the keynote speaker. The event was very well attended and received.

F. Comments from the University Council Representative – Robin Veder for James Ruiz

1. The Faculty Senate will take up the issue of changing the W grade. This item will be added to the agenda for the March meeting.
2. There was an advisory report on enhancing the educational experience of adult learners, which was presented by Dr. Barbara Sims. Adult learner enrollment is up at World Campus, UP and PS Harrisburg. Penn State's definition of what constitutes an adult learner differs from the National Center for Education Statistics. Penn State requires that the student be 24 years of age or older, a veteran or returning to school after a four or more year absence. There were a number of recommendations to support adult learners, focusing on advising and planning so they can have more success in degree completion. One of the recommendations was to look at past life and educational experiences and credits by examination or portfolio. Also recommended were expanded alternative course delivery methods and scheduling where adult learners are concentrated, and expand financial aid and perhaps subsidized child care. This report will now go to the Faculty Senate for consideration.
3. Commission for Women – Work/Family Balance report, which is an informational report, focused on faculty/staff parents following the first year of childbirth or adoption. Recommendations were: more effective communications regarding the Family Leave Policies, more universal application on the Family Leave Policy, flexible work conditions (flex time, work from home).

G. Forensic Business

None

H. New Business

1. G. McGuigan reported on behalf of N. Bayraktar who serves on the International and Intercultural Affairs Committee. The Committee is concerned with the funding of cultural programs on the campus. This issue has been discussed in the past regarding the International Film Festival, but this is a broader issue about cultural programming and outreach to the community.

There is a problem with funding for campus cultural events, which include annual cultural events, and events that require long range planning through the SAF, which has served as the main funding source for campus activities. The following issues were identified as impediments to the process:

- Various programs, especially faculty designed programs, usually address multiple objectives: diversity, outreach, program support, etc
- SAF committees are not required to support these objectives or the college's strategic plan, and so do not necessarily have a long range view of a program's value
- The SAF funding cycle is short: you must use the funding within 3 months, which does not accommodate long range programming
- The SAF may reject long-standing programs, leaving the faculty to pursue funding at the last minute

The International and Intercultural Affairs Committee would ask the Senate to consider ways to facilitate funds for certain types of cultural programming, or to somehow facilitate the funding process so that one can pursue applicable funding sources throughout the University.

An ideal model would be that one could present a cultural event proposal to a committee/person who could then draw up a funding plan, and therefore this would assist the organizer to obtain funding. Also, one source that provides information and links to funding sources would facilitate the process. Essentially with support, organizers can spend their time designing the programs, with a fuller, longer range view of value to the campus, rather than searching for funding sources. This approach would allow the organizer to reinforce connections between the cultural programs and the schools, other events, and strategic goals.

2. Discussion continued and money is available with through the Diversity and Educational Equity Committee. Faculty are sometimes discouraged since funding is difficult to obtain. We want to make it easier to obtain funding and increase the visibility of available activities (through advertising and listings in local magazines that highlight cultural activities.) There is also funding available through the individual schools.
3. Dr. Kulkarni would like to discuss these issues at the next Executive Session and will collect more data.

I. Unfinished Business

See above

J. Legislative Reports

None

K. Advisory/Consultative Reports

None

L. New Legislative Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55pm.

Next Joint Faculty Senate and Academic Council Meeting March 23, 2010

/slp