UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA
November 03, 2011
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Faculty Senate Website: http://www.unk.edu/committees/facultysenate/

I. Call to order  President Dimock at 7:02pm

II. Roll Call:
- At Large Senators:  Present: Davis, Frickel, Wozniak;
  Absent: (none)
- CBT Senators:  Present: Agrawal, Amundson, Barry, Messersmith, Moore, T., Taylor, Trewin;
  Absent (none);
- COE Senators:  Present: Fredrickson, Kracl, Kritzer, Moore, J.;
  Absent: Lewis, Mollenkopf, Montgomery;
- CFAH Senators:  Present: Burbal, Chavez, Dimock, Flood;
  Absent: Beard, Beissel-Heath, Fronczak, White;
- CNSS Senators:  Present: Campbell, Carlson, Darveau, Ericson, Lilly, Miller, Trantham;
  Absent: Biggs
- Library Senator:  Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda
  Davis (Miller) Moved approval.  Motion passed.

IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes 06October2011
  Darveau (Chavez) Moved approval.
  - Under item J) Senator Lilly pointed out that this committee is more applicable for the students already on campus working toward that major. Senator Lilly pointed out that the Intl Studies Advisory council works specifically with the International Studies program which is an academic major that includes both domestic and international students and has no connection to the recruitment of international students.
  - Senator Chaves should be Senator Chavez.

  Motion passed

V. Special Presentation
  A. none

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
  A. Oversight Committee:
  B. Executive Committee: 19October2011
Senator Davis inquired about how faculty will be involved in the planning of the South Campus project. It was noted that some faculty have been involved in the past – Senator Darveau sat on the planning committee and indicated there were several faculty involved. Senator Davis asked that Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) follow up on this.

Senator Miller inquired about the insurance audit data. President Dimock indicated that the data was not parsed by campus.

Senator Fredrickson inquired about how the University allegedly violated the Fair Housing Laws. It was reported that a student had requested a therapy animal. The student apparently refused to provide the needed documentation to support the request and housing was denied.

Senator Carlson noted that non-UNK employees that visit (un-invited) to the campus have more rights according to the Free Speech Policy. There was a short discussion regarding un-invited visitors intimidating students or inciting civil unrest. Senator Lilly inquired as to when the free speech rights of the visitor become a ‘hate crime’ if it is targeted to minority groups. Senator Miller suggested that the Faculty Senate invite NU Legal Council to make a special presentation to the Senate addressing this issue.

There was some discussion regarding how General Studies fit into the 120 credit hour mandate. It is unlikely that General Studies hours will be cut to meet this limit. There was considerable discussion regarding the time-line and criteria of the exemption process. The FSEC was asked to follow up on this to obtain a firm time-line for the process. Other discussion indicate that the 120 hour limit will be in place May 2012 going forward. An existing student then has the option of changing to the more current catalog.

C. President’s Report:
Minor clarifications were suggested.

D. Academic Affairs: 20October2011
Senator Wozniak noted the anticipated workload with the new 120 hour limit. It is suggested that the real review work be handled at the individual college level Educational Policy Committee. It is unlikely that a program will be approved exceeding the 120 hour limit without a solid justification. It was noted that there are a significant number of programs that have been ‘grandfathered’ in conforming to new rules. It unclear at this time how these programs will be handled.

E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:
F. Academic Information and Technology Committee:
G. Artists and Lecturers Committee: 14October2011
Senator Darveau inquired as to how many proposals were passed that were second semester functions. Senator Ericson reported that approximately half of the proposals were for second semester. The Senate asks this committee to report the funding level outcome of each proposal in the minutes.

H. Athletic Committee:
I. e-campus Committee:
J. Faculty Welfare Committee:
K. Grievance Committee: 10October2011
Senator Carlson reported that the committee received two grievances and acted on them. Senator Carlson also inquired as to the status of the FS constitution. Apparently the constitution on the FS website is a draft. This will be updated.

L. Library Committee:

M. Professional Conduct Committee: 26October2011

Frickel (Miller) Nominate Senator Lilly to replace Senator Chavez.

Darveau (Amundson) moved that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast. Motion passed

N. Student Affairs Committee:

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees

A. Assessment Committee:

B. Affirmative Action Commission:

C. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee:

D. Council of Chairs:

E. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee:

F. Fees Committee:

G. First Year Advisory Council:

H. Gender Equity Committee:

I. Honors Council:


Senator Davis inquired about the status of the TaskStream process. Senator Lilly reported that work is proceeding on this process.

K. Parking:

L. Student Retention Committee:

M. Safety Committee:

N. Strategic Planning:

O. Student Support Services Advisory Committee:

P. Technology Advisory Committee:

Q. Women’s Studies Advisory Committee: 12October2011

R. WI/CD Committee: 11October2011

Senator Moore, T., inquiring about item V.c., asked why her class was denied when this class/instructor combination had been CD approved in the past. This class was apparently brought forward by another instructor, with the same syllabus that had been previously approved. It was explained that in the review by the WI/CD committee that the under-represented population was not identified in the syllabus.

Senator Frickel noted that there are not many CD classes available for the students. It will be difficult for the students to get six hours with limited CD offerings. Another problem is that, of the CD classes available, many are 300 or 400 level with pre-requisites.
Senator Amundson notes that it is difficult to identify, with MyBlue, which classes are WI or CD. He also noted that UNK is the only campus in the system with this designation and the software “upgrade” to make this more transparent will most likely not be available in the future.

Senator Berry notes that GS Portals require a global component. This could address the CD requirement.

Senator Darveau presented a draft proposal for modifying the WI and CD programs. With regard to WI, he notes that UNK could 1) remove the WI entirely, which raises concerns about assessing writing through the departmental level or 2) shift the WI oversight to the college level; i.e. the same place that other classes are approved. The Department chair then become responsible for ensuring that writing is actually being carried out in the class as approved in the syllabus. Regarding CD, it was proposed that perhaps GS could handle CD approvals since GS already assesses something like this in the portal classes.

There is further discussion concerning the enforcement of a writing curriculum. Although a syllabus may have been approved, and there are writing assignments with revision work in the syllabus, there is no accountability to ensure that it actually happens. It was noted that WI was intended to evolve and eventually be removed. There are draw backs to simply removing the WI designation – it would be possible for students to graduate without having been exposed to writing pedagogy. Other suggestions were offered, such as decentralizing the program into individual departments; each department must have an approved writing plan. Writing can part of departmental assessment. Regarding CD, it is noted that CD is not simply equivalent to global/international.

Ericson (Frickel) move that an ad hoc committee, to be appointed by the Executive Committee, be established to work with the WI/CD committee to develop a transition plan and present this to Faculty Senate by the February 2012 regular meeting. Motion passes.

S. Writing Center Advisory Committee:

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council

B. General Studies Council: 06October2011

There was considerable discussion about the GS rubric/assessment of core classes. Many classes have been operating this semester without an established rubric or assessment assignment. Given that a syllabus is a binding agreement with the students, it is not appropriate provide such information so late in the semester. Assessments (assignments and rubrics) should be in the hands of faculty in sufficient time to build their syllabi.

Another issue is the enforcement of students purchasing TaskStream. It is not appropriate to put the enforcement in the hands of individual instructors. Also, there seems to be delays in getting training/codes to students to use TaskStream this year.

It was noted that the Oral Communication assessment may have been suspended this year, however the Democracy assessments are still under development.

It was suggested that GS make a presentation to Senate clarifying the process.

Darveau (Frickel) move that Faculty Senate finds it unacceptable to impose an assessment after the semester begins and ask that all such assessments this semester to not be required. Motion passes.
C. Council on Undergraduate Education:

IX. Unfinished Business

A.

B.

X. New Business

A. Senator Darveau indicates that the Plagiarism Student Code may not be followed. There should be a report which goes through the Department Chair, Dean, and finally the Vice Chancellor.

**Darveau (Miller) move to charge the Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee the task of developing an instrument, electronic or otherwise, to report violations of academic integrity according to the Student Code of Conduct. Motion passes.**

XI. General Faculty Comments

Senator Darveau noted a conversation with the registrar. Departments are allowed to require their own classes in GS categories, rendering the motion made by FS (October 2011) mute.

Senator Mueller announced the Learning Commons dedication Friday 4 November 2011 at 2pm.

Senator Davis acknowledged the exceptional work of the B&T college in organizing the Capitalism and Morality conference.

Senator Wozniak noted in the Monday (31 October 2011) Kearney Hub newspaper, there was an letter to the editor from an Chinese UNK student complaining lack of support when they move here. He asked that the Executive Committee follow up with this at the next meeting with Administration.

XII. Adjournment

**Miller (Forrest) move to adjourn. Motion passes.**