Minutes - October 19, 2009 CAS Faculty Senate Meeting, 104 Gore Hall

Attended:

Excused:
Camara Holloway, George Miller, Ted Davis, Pat DeLeon

Absent:
Jane Noble-Harvey, Doug Ridge, Ann Towns, Heidi Kaufman, Bernie Moxley, Marianne Gythfeldt, Jianguo Chen, Antonia Randolph, Maggie Ussery, Fritz Szabo, Michael Rosenberg

Guests: Karen Stein, Kathy Pusecker, Gabrielle Bauer

Visitors: Cathy Wu, Mark Miller, Errol Lloyd, Paul Pusecker, Brian Ackerman

MINUTES
I. Consent Agenda
   a. Agenda for 10/19/09 meeting approved.
   b. A minor in Japanese approved.

II. Minutes from 9/21/09 meeting
   a. An amendment to the minutes from 9/21/09 was requested. Part IV section b: “Dr. Rutgers noted that this activity seems not to include core areas within certain disciplines” is hereby amended to “Dr. Rogers noted that the strategic plan says little about undergraduate education and seems not to include hiring in core areas within certain disciplines and asked if this indicates a shift in focus away from excellence in undergraduate education.”
   b. Minutes were approved as amended.

III. President’s Remarks (John A. Pelesko):
   a. Review of this year’s goals: the September and October agendas were distributed in a timely fashion; it is hoped this will continue. Pelesko reminded the senators to convey to faculty that they may bring issues to the Faculty Senate at any time.

IV. Dean’s remarks: Dean Watson presented remarks on Development issues and priorities for the College (attached).

V. Special Information Session: Kathy Pusecker, Karen Stein and Gabrielle Bauer from CTE/CSEE (attached)

VI. Business Arising from Standing Committees
   a. Report from the Grade Grievance Committee (K. Haas):
      A recent case raised questions about procedures, namely: (1) who has the burden of proof, (2) what is the standard of evidence. At present the Faculty Senate can only uphold a student grievance based on inferred bias, violation of established procedure, or special cases (ADA, sexual harassment). The Committee will be reviewing the policy with a view to bringing a proposed revision to the Senate.
   b. Report from Educational Affairs (T. Seraphin):
      i. Noting a lack of balance in the makeup of the Ed Affairs Committee, Seraphin presented the following motion to amend the bylaws to change the makeup of the
committee:

1. Whereas the College’s Bylaws make no provisions for a balanced Educational Affairs Committee and,
2. Whereas the Bylaws simply make provisions for a committee of seven faculty members, and a representative from the Dean’s Office:

   a. Be it resolved that Section V, Item 16, Part B of the bylaws be changed from “The committee shall be composed of seven faculty members and one voting member from the Dean’s Office” to “The committee shall be composed of seven faculty members, including a minimum of two from the natural sciences and mathematics, two from the social sciences and history, one from the arts, one from the humanities, and a voting member from the Dean’s Office.”

Suggested amendment:

   b. The committee shall be composed of seven faculty members, including a minimum of two from the natural sciences, two from the social sciences, one from the arts, one from the humanities, and a voting member of the Dean’s Office.

Resolution passed as amended.

ii. Other motions

1. Revision of the English Education major leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree – passed.
2. Add an honors Bachelor of Science degree in Neuroscience within the Psychology program – passed.
3. Add an honors Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology – passed.
4. Add an honors Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology – passed.
5. Add an honors Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology Education – passed.
6. Add a new Master of Science degree in Bioinformatics – passed.
7. Add an honors Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry – passed.
8. Revise the Bachelor of Science degree in Biochemistry – passed.

VII. Old Business

a. At-Large-Senator: senators elected Alexander T. Selimov (FLL) At-Large Senator, with Ikram Masmoudi (FLL) as First Alternate
b. Parliamentarian: no nominations have been received.
c. Search for a Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences: please send recommendations to Dean Chajes, Search Committee Chair