Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Monday April 23, 2018

3:30 - 5:00  CH 126


Summary of Action

- Unanimously approved the following Statement as proposed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Textbooks and Accessibility:
  - The Faculty at Wichita State University are committed to providing the highest quality instruction for all students. As a part of that commitment, we make continual efforts to seek new information and methods to teach in our subject areas.
  - Instructional content at WSU is the responsibility of the faculty teaching each individual course; the accessibility of that content is also the responsibility of that faculty, and as we do many other critical issues, we will take accessibility into account as we consider textbooks, resources, and tools for our classes. Accessibility is not the only consideration when choosing a text, but we understand its importance to our students, and we are committed to making accessible choices when they are available and the choice does not have a negative impact on the quality of the course in other ways.
  - We will discuss the need for accessibility with publishers when we have the opportunity.
  - We will learn what we can about accessible instruction – both in general as it is being made available by the university, and from other leaders in our fields of study.
- Approved alternative motion from the floor to pilot the FYS program for AY 2018-19 and AY 2019-20, with a decision to be made in Spring 2020 to determine if the program will become a permanent part of the curriculum beginning in Fall 2021 with a vote of 22-4-3.
- Approved revisions to Policy 2.17 on Academic Integrity recommended by the Ad Hoc Academic Integrity committee, with a vote of 21-6-2.

I. Meeting called to Order at 3:30

II. Informal Statements and Proposals

None
III. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from March 26 approved – with suggested changes regarding questions to Boden.

IV. President's Report

- Congrats to our Faculty recipients of the President’s Distinguished Service award: Achita Muthiachareon, Kirsten Johnson, Paul Ackerman
- President’s Budget Advisory Council
- AOC Meeting – Looking at final plans for Student Health and Counseling and Testing. Looking at effects of bundling these services.
- Librarians working on accessibility of databases.
- Members of revisions committee – non-voting members include the three advisors and associate registrar.
- CIM – online curriculum change forms. Training to be offered in fall.
- Idea Generator Update- 52 different suggestions were vetted by committee.
- Provost candidates will visit this week.
- May 4 Faculty awards and general faculty meeting.
- May 7 (1st Monday) Final senate meeting/ex. Comm election.
- Shockin’ fun Friday: Faculty/staff picnic June 1, 3:00-5:00 RSC courtyard. Sponsored by Student Affairs.

V. Committee Reports

- Provost search committee update - Betty Smith Campbell, Co-Chair
- Rules – still need the committees to elect chairs for next year.
- John Jones - Accessibility committee report and proposal – focusing mainly on textbook accessibility issues. Determining evaluation methods for textbooks. Suggests establishing a permanent committee for accessibility. Proposed faculty senate statement was voted on and approved with one reading. Questions arose about available funding for supporting compliance as well as what other schools are doing. We tend to be ahead of most schools especially with face-to-face classes. Currently piloting Blackboard ally plug in.

VI. Old Business

- FYS proposal - 2nd reading
  Recommendation from the Gen Ed committee that the pilot proposal from 2015 be adopted as a required component of the curriculum for incoming freshmen starting in Fall 2019. Concerns were raised about making this course a permanent requirement at this time. These concerns focused on whether the data is sufficient to inform the decision, and whether there would be enough courses available to meet the required demand by Fall 2019. It was noted that without a permanent status, faculty might remain hesitant to develop these new courses. Data will continue to be gathered regarding retention and student perceptions on the benefits of the courses. This will be presented to the Gen Ed committee and Senate for consideration and to inform their final decision in Spring 2020.
• Academic Integrity policy – 2nd reading – Has been endorsed unanimously by Graduate Council with suggested procedural recommendations as follows. University should provide best practices training. Expand discussion to academic integrity online – and necessary resources like Proctor U. Find active ways to inform students about this policy change, for instance, highly visible during enrollment. Grad council also wanted exonerated students to be removed/de-identified from “the system”. Procedures are still being finalized.

VII. New Business

• Bobby Gandu, Admission - Update on Qualified Admission (KBOR). Will continue to require for certain QA units over varying subject matters but remove requirements to take certain courses. Remove requirement to self-report every course/grade. Utilize cumulative GPA instead of Pre-College Curriculum GPA. Will change cumulative GPA requirement to 2.0 for residents and 2.25 for non-residents until 2024 and then residents and non-residents will both require 2.25.

VIII. Attendance

IX. As May Arise