

9-26-08 **Faculty Senate Meeting** 3:04p

Attendance: Peter Cashel-Cordo, Marlene Shaw, Todd Schroer, Chad Tew, Marie Opatrny, Kent Scheller, Brian Posler, Sudesh Mujumdar, Dr. Linda Bennett (University Provost), Lesa Cagle (Faculty Senate Chair), Vella Goebel, Peggy Shields, Mellisa Hall (recording secretary)

Absent: Bob Hooper

Announcements: Dr. Bennett: 10/3/08 (12n-2p). CNN traveling news bus in front of Orr Center. Opportunity for students to see a CNN broadcast possibly and view organization of traveling news bus. Dr. Bennett clarified that bus is not to be used for political gain (according to University policy).

Highlights of Provost's Report presented by Dr. Bennett:

Report of Faculty Hiring: 65 open positions and 56 new positions hired (86% hiring success!). (See attached Provost's Report.)

Issues from deans: summary in attached Provost's Report.

Record enrollment and retention rates this fall (2008)!! Retention rates also broken down by colleges (deans have reports).

Faculty Affairs Committee – ways to reduce the 12/12 teaching load (summary in Provost's report). Dr. Bennett reinforced initiative to increase full time faculty.

Dr. Posler: presented highlights from Developmental Education Seminar, August 2008. Handout provided that outlined goals and timelines for new programs to promote retention.

Dr. Bennett: Faculty timeline for tenure process - handout reviewed. She noted the impetus to place new policy in Faculty Handbook this year.

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Faculty Hiring	General concern that we are losing excellent faculty candidates because of poor efficiency in hiring process. Suggestion to expedite faculty hiring by offering position contingent upon successful background check. (K. Scheller) (M. Shaw, T. Schroer, and P. Cashel-Cordo) concerned about ineffective reference checks that are also time consuming.	Provost responded that the process will be reviewed.

Current Status of the Budget	P Cashel-Cordo: Suggestion link on FS website for all faculty to have easy access. P Cashel-Cordo: Question about tuition increase.	Currently on Cindy Brinker's web site only. Provost explained series of steps before tuition decisions occur, including legislative actions. No current knowledge of tuition increase.
Previous Experience Credit for Newly Hired Faculty	K Scheller: concerned about making policy not to allow 1:1 credit for previous teaching experience.	Provost to consider deletion on page 3 of 1:1 statement.
Tenure Timeline Changes	New proposal for contract changes was provided. Information to be reviewed by FS and vote to be taken 10/3.	Vote 10/3 on tenure timeline changes.
Serving on Promotion/Tenure Committee while applying for promotion/tenure.	Provost read newly developed policy for Faculty Handbook. Committee felt new policy correctly reflected suggested changes.	Motion passed. P. Cashel-Cordo/C. Tew
Proposal to change academic probation criteria	Discussion to increase from 0 to 6 hours before student is placed on academic probation. Page 29 of Academic Handbook: proposed change to GPA 1.7 for 6 – 37 quality hours attempted.	Motion passed. K. Scheller/V. Goebel

Old Business: Minutes from May 7, 2008 retreat and August 27, 2008 meeting deferred for approval until next scheduled meeting.

New Business:

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Faculty Senate Charges 2008		
Tuition Share Program	Investigate and make recommendations for program. Charge accepted.	Charge sent to Economic Benefits – motion passed P. Cashel-Cordo/K. Scheller
Counseling Center	Many interested colleges submitted similar charge.	charge to both Academic Affairs and an ad hoc

	<p>(P. Cashel-Cordo) suggested expanding charge for all university community (not just students). (T. Schroer disagreed and felt should focus on students at this point. (P. Cashel-Cordo) suggested bring in Counseling Center and ADA Director for discussion of the current concerns. (K. Scheller) suggested an ad hoc committee to review. Charge: Develop an ad hoc committee to investigate and make recommendations for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Clarify the role of the Counseling Center. b. Develop, from both the perspective of the faculty and staff, a protocol for handling difficult situations. c. Perform an assessment of the resource needs from the perspective of the students and make recommendations. d. Perform an assessment of the resources required for expanding the role of the Counseling Center, and include mental health counseling consistent with comparable state institutions, and make recommendations e. Investigate the need for additional mental health resources for University of Southern Indiana students and make recommendations. f. Suggested composition of the committee: representatives from student affairs, faculty academic affairs, counseling center, ADA, John Deem and/or Barry Schonberger and Representative from initiating group of the charge. 	<p>committee. (Schroer/Goebal) Suggested Ad Hoc Committee composition: Student affairs Faculty affairs Counseling center ADA Director Representative from initiating group of the charge. John Deem and/or Barry Schonberger Recommendation passed for ad hoc committee to work on Counseling Center charge.</p>
<p>Assessment Committee</p>	<p>(P. Cashel-Cordo) suggested postponing Assessment Charge in order to have a more in depth discussion of assessment.</p>	<p>Charge: Draft a comprehensive report of assessment practices across campus. Scheller/Cashel-Cordo</p>

		Charge # 3
Medical Withdraw Process	(C. Tew) review charge at next meeting.	Postpone Charge #4
Fresh Start Program	(L. Cagle) postpone until next meeting.	Postpone Charge #5
Grievance Process for Grade Assignment	Currently language unclear that grade assignments are not academic grievances. Goal to clarify process for grade appeal.	Postpone Charge # 6
Health Benefits for Domestic Partners	Wording for same-sex partner benefits is already at the Board of Trustees. Discussion weather to leave the wording the same (not to change wording to domestic partners). (C. Tew) suggested statement to support previous recommendation in the form of a resolution to be read to the Board of Trustees. (Provost) reminded committee that if FS is to send a resolution to the Board of Trustees, the official resolution process has to be followed according to policy in the University Constitution.	Postponed until next meeting #7
Designated Faculty Parking	Charge: Review and make recommendations for designated faculty parking	Charge sent to: Faculty and Academic Affairs Committee #8 C. Tew/P./Cashel-Cordo
Accessibility for Handicapped Parking	Business Affairs currently working on additional parking. ADA director aware of situation also.	Send to Provost's office and Business Affairs for immediate action #9
Graduation on Mother's Day	(P Cashel-Cordo) felt accommodation should be made so Mother's Day is not overlooked. (P Shields) suggestion to have commencement the Saturday prior to final exams. (K. Scheller) suggestion to have commencement the Saturday morning after final exams.	As part of the calendar committee and summer session ad hoc committee: to Provost's Office for consideration #10

Topic	Discussion	Decision
Charge: Section	(M. Shaw) suggests communicating	Charge to Economic

1 – Contingency Fund and Fair Compensation	<p>compensation available for covering other faculty's classes.</p> <p>Charge: Work with Human Resources to review and recommend ways to streamline the hiring process making it more timely and efficient at all levels.</p>	<p>Benefits – amend to also determine current practices from each college. M. Shaw/M. Opaterny</p>
Charge: Section 2 - Calendar and specific college needs	<p>(Provost) Postpone compensation discussion.</p> <p>(M. Shaw) calendar committee is currently a priority.</p>	<p>Provost: to establish calendar committee and ad hoc committee to investigate summer school timeline.</p>
Charge: Section 3	<p>Hiring Process</p> <p>Charge: Work with Human Resources to review and recommend ways to streamline the hiring process making it more timely and efficient at all levels</p>	<p>Charge to Faculty Affairs K. Scheller/V. Goebal</p>
Computer Center	<p>(K. Scheller) Discussion on ITS problems</p>	<p>Administrative issue.</p>
Environmental Awareness	<p>(L. Cagle) reports that information should be in previous minutes.</p> <p>(K Scheller) found information in archived files.</p>	<p>L. Cagle to follow-up</p>

Meeting adjourned at 5:45p. Next scheduled meeting: **October 3, 2008 at 3p HP 2027.**