Faculty Senate Minutes

Time and Date: 2:00pm – October 9, 2014 - Thursday

Senators Present:

Business & Information Technology - Craig Dawkins
Kristen Wolfe
Janelle Montgomery

Engineering Science - Amy Hurst
Bill Wilson
Steve Fowler

Humanities - Emily Robinson
Angie Keneda

Social Sciences - Joe Campbell

Health Sciences - Denise Haught

Adjunct- Amy Padgett-McCue

Call to Order: Amy Hurst called the meeting of October 9, 2014, to order at 2:00pm.

Approval of Minutes The September minutes were approved with one correction - change name in item 7 from Brenda Wilson to Brenda Lomas.

Treasurers Report: Emily Robinson reported that the balance of funds for the Faculty Senate is $5908.50.

Committee Reports:

1. Discussion and possible action related to committees.
   a. Kristen Wolfe gave an update on the Online Best Practices Committee. They are working on the online training courses for faculty teaching online courses and the incorporation of more quality matters rubric information into our online courses. This is an effort to ensure that our online courses will pass HLC scrutiny. The committee is also looking at changing the front page of D2L to make it more user friendly for students. For instance making the help resources page more accessible to students. The committee is also looking at creating a front page for each division and having a training program for all faculty when they first come into the program. As a result of these changes the committee will be meeting every two weeks.
   b. Craig Dawkins reported on Executive Council. The council discussed a comprehensive emergency plan. The council is working out a plan for each division as it relates to active shooter, tornado and earthquake. They are going to integrate drills for each division in to
convocation. They are going to implement a campus wide paging system to communicate with the faculty in their classrooms should an event happen. The plans and system should be in place by spring.

Old Business:

1. Update on meeting and dates and times for 2014-2015 meetings.
   - Amy Hurst informed the Faculty Senate that the meeting in November will be held in the Tinker Terrace Room. Next meeting is Thursday November 13th, 2014 at 2pm in Tinker Terrace Room.
   - Craig Dawkins informed the Faculty Senate that he will send out an email with the wording in the P and P in regards to changing the term of Faculty Senate President. This will allow the members to think about what the changes will be and allow for discussion at the next meeting. The wording will have to go through a constitutional change.

New Business:

1. Discussion and possible action related to a summit meeting between divisions regarding student enrollment, retention, and graduation.
   - Amy Hurst suggested that we need to discuss when to have a meeting to discuss the different options in class scheduling that were presented in the September meeting with Dr. Webb.
   - Craig Dawkins suggested that one potential obstacle to an 8-week schedule in faculty compensation. If a faculty member’s course(s) do not make in the second 8-weeks how will this affect contractual obligations to the college.
   - The notion was mentioned that you leave MW 16 weeks and TTH goes with 8 weeks, also it was suggested that we leave the night classes at 16 weeks. These ideas further pressed the conversation toward the organization of a summit with faculty members during convocation in the spring.
   - It was suggested that there be a meeting with division faculty and division deans prior to the end of the semester. The Faculty Senate determined that the best time to meet with the deans is during our November 13th meeting.

2. Discussion and possible action related to surveying faculty standpoints on student authentication.
   - Dr. Hendrix is interested in knowing how large of an issue student authentication is for the faculty. Is it just a few who view this as a large issue? Or is it a more widespread concern amongst the faculty.
   - Kristen Wolfe suggested that it is pretty easy to just go into Oasis and pull up a student photo to authenticate their identity.
   - Amy Hurst mentioned that the LRC is working on a policy for identification. There is a group of people who feel that the only valid ID should be the RSC ID in order to take a test.
   - Kristen Wolfe motioned that we design a two question survey to administer to faculty in regard to their feelings on student authentication. Joe Campbell seconded the motion. The motion passed.
3. Discussion and possible action related to notification letters of intent previously supplied in April to faculty.
   - Faculty concerned about not receiving their letter of intent in April, which was the first time.
   - The Faculty Senate concurred that it was a good idea to encourage the president to continue this trend.
   - It was agreed upon to make a recommendation to Dr. Webb during our next meeting.

4. Discussion and possible action related to library concerns regarding student familiarity with technology.
   - The question was raised, Is there an introduction to computers course that all students take? Should there be? Who would be the person to make that happen?
   - Craig Dawkins suggested that there are general education requirements for computer skills and literacy. This can be demonstrated through skills or the completion of a course.
   - It further illustrated that if a student has completed a computer course in high school this will satisfy the requirement, if not, the student must take a computer course at RSC.

**Call to Adjourn:** Joe Campbell made a motion to adjourn at 2:57pm. Kristen Wolfe seconded the motion, and all were in favor.