Faculty Senate Agenda

Time and Date: 2:30 pm – September 5, 2013 – Thursday

Senators Present:

**Business & Information Technology -**
- Kristen Wolfe
- Craig Dawkins
- Donna Wilson

**Engineering Science -**
- Chuang Shao
- Dan Ratcliffe
- Satish Singhal
- Amy G. Hurst

**Health Sciences -**
- Shelly Mitchell
- Kara Hodges
- Elizabeth Koldoff

**Humanities -**
- Emily Robinson
- Sherri Mussatto
- Reginald Snoddy

**Social Sciences -**
- Monique Bruner
- James Hochtritt
- M. Katheryn Carey
- Misty Engelbrecht

**Adjunct Representative-**
- Stacie Mays

**Call to Order:** Craig Dawkins

**Approval of Minutes**

**Treasurers Report:** Chuang Shao reported that the current balance is $6,833.50. $40.00 will be added to this figure either this week or next week.

**Committee Reports:**

a. **Assessment:** The Assessment Committee is currently working on a definition of quantitative reasoning and methods to assess it.

b. **Planning Council:** The Planning Council is working on recommendations on the direction the college wants to go in such as programs offered, changes in curriculum requirements, and whether or not to broaden our online offerings.

c. **Bookstore Committee:** Book sales are down. A new bookstore survey is being worked on.
Old Business:

1. None

New Business:

1. Establish future meeting dates: The Faculty Senate will alternate between meeting on Wednesdays and Thursdays at 2:30 during the first week of each month. The October meeting will be on Wednesday, the November meeting will be on Thursday, etc.

2. Group subscription to *The Chronicle of Higher Education* for Faculty Association members. There was a debate as to whether or not to use Faculty Association funds to purchase a subscription costing $550.00 to the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. One question that arose was whether or not faculty members currently have access to it. It was decided that this business item be tabled until next time so that Craig Dawkins could check with Chris Meyer about it.

3. FERPA issue related to student user ID and password: Ken Dewey brought it to the attention of the Faculty Senate that currently Rose State students are using birthdates as their password to numerous systems on campus and that this is a violation of FERPA. After a brief discussion, Dan Ratcliff made a motion that Dewey’s letter be given to John Primo for consideration. Craig Dawkins seconded the motion, and all approved.

4. Retention and graduation rates. – Michelle Brockmeier submitted an agenda item stating that faculty are “being held accountable for retention, graduation rates, etc. Currently our pass/fail rate is based on how many students make As, Bs, and Cs with anything less being counted against us. Since our students receive credit for earning a D, that should be included in our pass/fail rate. Otherwise this gives us a false reading.” The discussion of this agenda item turned to discussing academic freedom and problems associated with grade inflation due to evaluating professors on AW’s and F’s assigned, print-outs of grades given by instructors being posted, and the message that is being given to faculty. Some faculty may feel pressured to boost grades so the grade distribution looks better. Dan Ratcliff made a motion that Craig Dawkins discuss this issue with Dr. Frances Hendrix. Amy Hurst seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

5. Regents meeting dates and attendees:
   - September 19th: Sherri Mussatto
   - October 24th: Monique Bruner
   - November 21st: Kara Hodges
   - December 19th: Craig Dawkins

6. Goals for 2014: Senators were asked to send their goals to Craig Dawkins via e-mail.

Call to Adjourn Satish Singhal made a motion to adjourn at 3:30 and the motion carried.

Submitted by Sherri Mussatto, Faculty Senate Secretary