
**Faculty Senate Executive Meeting
October 13, 2016
12:30 P.M. in CTC 103**

Present: Monica Dillihunt, Kader Freni, Carmen Scholz, Joseph Taylor, Christine Sears, Mike Banish, Tim Newman, Earl Wells, James Swain

Absent: Ramon Cerro, Eric Seeman

Ex-Officio: Provost Christine Curtis

Guests: President Bob Altenkirch

- Faculty Senate President Mike Banish called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm.
- Meeting summary:
 - Proposed Bill Proposing New Process for Small Grants Applications through the Office of Sponsored Programs passed first reading and will be sent to the full faculty senate.
 - Librarian Policy passed with amendments and will be sent to the full faculty senate.
 - Lecturer Policy is added to agenda.
 - Hoverboard Policy is added to agenda to be un-tabled.
- **Administrative Reports**
 - Provost Christine Curtis
 - I brought the preliminary enrollment data that includes pell data. We are at 27.6 ACT and Auburn is at 27.4. I will give you this to look at and if you have questions, let me know.
 - On Tuesday the 25th and Wednesday the 26th, we have an agenda for Title IX training. This is for faculty, staff, department chairs, associate deans, directors, faculty senators, everyone needs to come. We don't know which person a student may come to and say I have a problem. We need to be aware of what to do and the appropriate actions. The training will run an hour and fifteen minutes for each. There are two sessions for faculty. There are two for staff. The students also have two sessions in the evening. This is for us to be totally informed if the students need our help if they have a complaint or are being complained about.
 - Mike – Could you give me a very brief description of what the procedures to be are if a student came to me and said a student groped her or a faculty member groped her?
 - Provost – You go to TJ Brecciaroli for students. For faculty, you go to Delois Smith.
 - Mike – You don't go to police?
 - Provost – These are the contacts for Title IX. TJ handles 40 – 50 complaints a year. They aren't all at a high level, but they all have to be handled. They

have both had extensive training. The key is to keep the student calm and get them to the right person.

- Carmen – How is the point of contact determined?
- Provost – If it is student on student, it stays with TJ. If it is student with faculty, it goes to Delois. If it is amongst faculty, that goes to Delois.
- Mike – Is this posted on the website?
- Provost – Yes, there is a Title IX location on the website. At the very bottom of the website, there is a Title IX link.
- Kader – Does Title IX cover hiring processes too?
- Provost – Yes, but the Title IX we are talking about here is specific to sexual harassment. This area is in the public spotlight. There are lists of universities that are being watched. The board has asked us not to get on that list. That is why we are having this training. In the Chronicle yesterday, there was a university listed that was in Delaware. It stated that they didn't treat the accused properly. We have to treat both parties properly with due processes.
- Mike – I know that you have sent this out, but I will send it out to my senators. I will also remind my committee chairs to remind their members.
- Provost - If you could encourage your department chairs to encourage their staff assistants to go. Students will go to those they are most comfortable with.

○ President Bob Altenkirch

- The board is requiring that we hire a Title IX coordinator. I have written the job description. We finalized that and filled out the paperwork. The title is Director of Compliance and Title IX Coordinator. They will make sure that we are compliant and up to date. The focal point will be Title IX compliance. They will coordinate the activities. We will start off with a one person office and they will report to me. The Title IX coordinators should report to the highest levels, and there isn't one higher. I held off on it, because I didn't know if it would be a full time job. It was in legal, but had to be pulled out for compliance issues.
- ACT scores are in; we beat Auburn for the first time. I received the resolution for class scheduling and reviewed all the reports. My conclusion is that what we are going to do for the fall is have twenty minutes between classes. I have written a memo that pulls all the areas we are going to pursue. We will consider bicycles and walking maps. We will shift the start times to have twenty minutes between classes. We won't change any contact time.
 - Provost – On MWF, it will no longer match the MW schedule. There will be nine full class times from 8 – 6.
- It's the same table except we won't go until 9:00 and you can start whenever you want. There was an error in the table. It ends at 8:40 not 9:00. Basically accepting all recommendations like bicycles, but change the start times. I will attach a walking map that shows how long it would take to get to each place. There are points to points that are 25 minutes.
 - Kader – One recommendation was to incorporate an alert system in banner when students are enrolling in classes.
 - Provost – I will be talking with the registrar to see if there is a way we can do that. That is an excellent idea. The walking time map will be on the

website. I will talk with them to see what we can do through banner. It will be interesting. We are going to Banner XE. Maybe if it can't be done immediately, it can be done in that transition.

- Carmen – Does the consensus still remain that we can start earlier if students agree?
- Provost – Yes, but you have to stick with the final exam times.
- Kader – This is also contingent on the parking study. It may change with the resolution.
- President – I can't tell you what will come from that. We are supposed to hear from them by Christmas break. I am thinking that anything we hear from the study would improve the situation.
- Carmen – On a different note, is the Title IX coordinator a new position?
 - President – No, this is fresh.
 - Provost – This is coming from the board. They basically said don't get on the list and get a compliance officer.

➤ **Officer/Committee Reports**

- Mike Banish, President
 - Most of you know that Joseph put forth a bill. Overhead is now waived on grants less than \$5K. That is great news and we thank you, President.
 - I got a list from Joy of committees that need faculty senate representation. Some are problematic to begin with because they are called committees and don't have half faculty members on them.
 - Provost – Can we change the name?
 - Mike – Yes, we are going to make that recommendation.
 - One is the Charger Green Recycling Committee; I think we are good on this one after reviewing this. The Students Advisory Board, we are good. The ADA Advisory Committee, we seem to be missing someone from the faculty senate. It really doesn't need to be called a committee.
 - Monica – We looked at that and it didn't say 50%.
 - Mike – Yes, for a committee it does.
 - Monica, I hate to say it, but it will either be nursing or education. We will press someone from nursing. Employee Benefits Committee, we are covered. Mary Bonilla is serving.
 - Provost- What about someone from business?
 - Mike – Ok, I will work to get someone.
- Carmen Scholz, President – Elect
 - I received a bill from Joseph. Then I realized it was agreed upon before anything started.
 - Provost – What did you receive?
 - Joseph – I sent forward a bill.
 - Provost – How did you get the word about the \$5K?
 - Mike – I got it from my Dean.
 - Provost – Today? What time? I was wondering what the chain of events were.
 - Joseph – I emailed Ray Vaughn and received a verbal agreement. We felt like we needed something definitive. That is why we went ahead with the bill to have something down years from now.

- Monica – It came yesterday at 8:33 am from Gloria.
- Mike – We received it at 9:27 this morning. My suggestion is that we go through and pass the bill. That is up to you though.
- Kader – The amount is double.
- Mike – My amendment would be change the amount.
- Joseph – It isn't we don't trust Ray; we just want something for years to come.
- Provost – If you read the last sentence. Since this has been resolved and the amount has been defined, do we really need this statement?
- Tim – Was the thinking of adding that statement was it would make it more enforced?
- Mike- I think the last two things are out because it can't include salaries. We can make an amendment to change it and send it forward.
- Provost – I would say to take it out to not slap the research center.
- Tim – Are we going to go forward with this one?
- Mike – Yes.
- Tim – I will go ahead with a motion to adopt this bill with an amendment.
- Mike – Do we need to go through committee reports first?
- Tim – Yes, I withdraw my motion.
- Carmen – I would like to finish this one.
- Mike – We are going to change the \$2500 to \$5000 and strike the last two “further be resolved”. All those in favor. Ayes carry. This will be on the agenda for Thursday.
- Tim – What is the bill number?
- Mike – It should be 396.
- Carmen – I don't know if this belongs here, but we discussed the issue with the RCEU program on how to get the funds to the students. I have received a complaint along with this in regards to C&G that the PI's paperwork is ridiculous. Is this the time to handle this?
 - Tim – You can make this part of your report. The other option is at the tail of our agenda, there is miscellaneous business that you could discuss it then.
 - Provost – Outside of the senate, you can send this to me and I will start working it. Maybe it needs to go two routes.
 - Carmen – You can't have them handling it this way and then next year they handle it the same way and get in trouble. There is an issue when the students receive the money, if there is an outstanding bill, it gets paid. If the parent paid with card, the money goes onto their card and they will not relinquish the funds to the student.
 - Joseph – The RCEU stipend goes into their account and they may not get it?
 - Carmen – I will send this and we need to get something resolved.
 - Mike – A few of us have talked and rather than do bills and resolutions, let's summarize this in a letter that we agree upon.

One of the issues in this is C&G seems to operate in their own power world. I just had a contract that finally got started. The POP was 21 September. It started up and I asked Angela to get the POP changed. I was told C&G didn't have it set up, so I can't. They will let me know when it's ready. C&G runs their own organization with no reporting to you in essence; that is a problem. We ask them a question, how much will be taken out for fringe benefits? That is difficult to get an answer and it is usually wrong. Other departments asked the question how much fringe will be taken out over the summer. They received an answer and it was wrong. The contract was overcharged and the PI's used their three accounts to cover it.

- Provost – I think we need to get this in a letter with basic description. The President has to have examples in order to push the person in charge.
- Mike – I agree with you. Faculty members receive a lot of accountability. There is no accountability to these wrong answers.
- Provost – That is what needs to be addressed. I understand the issue. I have got to have the examples.
- Carmen – I think that the problem comes from the fact that C&G is set up for contracts. They have very little knowledge about awards from funding agencies. They understand themselves as the final gate keeper to keep faculty in check. This mindset of treating the faculty as potential crooks is wrong. Our faculty does not have the mindset to use the funds for personal gain. The mindset needs to change.
- Kader Frendi, Past – President
 - I was assigned the Committee for Graduate Education. I have a list of members: Ramon, Monica, Wai Mok, Rob Preece, Alaina, Lenora, and John. I would like to have another person from science.
 - Provost - The President was talking with the deans yesterday. He was talking about the PhD production. Due to the way they have changed it, we have to have a broader range of PhD's. Is there any other area, that we would have a strong case, outside of science and engineering that we could consider creating a PhD program? If that committee would think about that it would help the university. It has to be well thought idea.
 - Mike – One of the reasons that we have been slow to develop this is because it was getting people from business and liberal arts to buy into it. Dr. Frendi did a lot of work to get this started. We do agree with you highly.
 - Kader – In addition to that, our ranking was high without the new areas.
 - Provost – They made it broad based. That is hurting us. We have to change when we bring in GTA's, we pay 125 a year, to PhD. We don't make that transition.
 - Carmen – Why doesn't the GTA to Master's count?
 - Mike – That doesn't count in Carnegie. It is PhD only.

- Provost – That is important. In regards to Carnegie, PhD is what matters.
- Monica – What further support is available? For example, psychology, there is a strong need for that. Our psychology department doesn't have certain areas. If that would be an area we found to support this need, what would the support be?
- Provost – Then you have to look at the cost. In order to sell it, I would go with programs that would be closest to move to PhD's. We can't be in an ivory tower. We know where the funds come from – the state.
- Carmen- I think we are skewed to a certain area. If you look at the kind of money that comes in, there is a chunk that is entirely research.
- Tim Newman, Parliamentarian
 - No Report.
- Monica Dillihunt, Governance and Operations Chair
 - I counted the numbers for the Faculty Appeals Committee. I guess Joy will send those out.
- Christine Sears, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Chair
 - We looked at a couple of bills. The plus/minus grading, the committee is concerned that it was piece milled. The proposal was that the professor would put on the syllabus what they would do, it was decided that was not a good decision.
 - SIE's - there needs to be some standardization across the university. We felt since there was a SIE committee, they need to do their work. We approved several classes. We are keeping on with new classes and programs.
- Joseph Taylor, Finance and Resources Committee Chair
 - Our committee met with the President for the budget presentation.
 - We did select speakers for spring 2017. There were five speakers. They will be on the website soon.
 - The RCEU proposals for faculty are due the 28th of this month. We do have sponsorship for stipends from business, science, and nursing. We are up to 35. Honors are now creating their own RCEU program. The consideration of the two honors will now be considered within that program.
 - Provost – I sell this when I go on the road. The parents always seem interested.
 - Mike – Can I suggest that you take a faculty member with you on recruiting trips?
 - Provost - That isn't my decision. This year we are streamlining it more than last. There are two going this time. I was told we would drive separately. But I did ask if we could drive together. Before we had a senior level go. It is grueling that you are away for that whole period of time. It can be hard. One thing we could possibly do, I have Florence to do in a week, and I have Decatur. I would love to have faculty go with me.
 - Mike – I would like to see business and liberal arts faculty go with you.

- Provost - One thing we are doing is we are setting up collaboration with a fine arts school in Birmingham. It turns out they have a math and science program. I am stopping by the Governor's School in South Carolina. We are trying to make specific efforts. When I went through Alabama, I only heard out of 81 students that 4 were aerospace, 10 computer science. There was a wide range. When we go outside, we tend to get more academic common market which is aerospace and engineering.
 - James Swain, Undergraduate Scholastic Affairs Committee Chair
 - We didn't come to a consensus on the IRB. I think things on course forgiveness will be solved soon. Will there be a bill for plus/minus bill?
 - Mike – Yes, it was a student bill. I need to get with them.
 - Earl Wells, Faculty and Student Development Committee Chair
 - No report.
- Mike – I am going to slip an item into the agenda. For the three policies we declared non-governance and released to committees for voting, it was the speech area policy, parking in front of SSB, and SSB room's use. Was there votes? Today is the deadline to announce. Did anyone say they want to discuss in front of full senate. Then they will go through and we will respond back the President.
- Mike – The policy on the leave pool. For accounting reasons, they are going to have a leave pool for people that are primarily on research contracts. I had a nice long discussion with Theresa in the VPR office. We went through the procedure and why they are doing it. It doesn't affect regular faculty in any form. If you have a research associate under you, it will affect them.
 - Provost – It deals with people who have leave.
 - Mike – For the policy of leave pool, can we have a vote that it is non-governance and send it out to the committees? All in favor? 2 abstain. We will release the policy and discuss it next time.
- Approval of faculty senate agenda for October 20th.
 - We will have bill 396 with amendment. I made some edits to the librarian policy to the representation part. I took off the procedures for non-tenured track faculty. I couldn't find that in 7-14.
 - Provost – On the last paragraph, change racked to rank.
 - Tim – On page 2, I think the way it reads is the librarian determines the college from which the external member comes from, not the actual member. I can't remember what is in the faculty handbook on non-tenured. For tenure-tracked, it's possible for the chair and the candidate to pick a specific person. Do you want it to parallel that? Is that in the handbook that someone chooses the college, not the person?
 - Mike – I tried to blend them.
 - Tim – If it isn't the handbook that someone picks the college not the person, maybe you don't want that in this policy.
 - Mike – I ask that we move this forward to the senate next week. Tim Newman moves. Mike Banish seconds. Ayes carry.
 - Kader - Do you have guests coming to this meeting?
 - Mike – Yes.
 - Kader – They need to be on the agenda.
 - We will add lecturer policy, librarian policy, proposed bill, and un-table the Hoverboard policy to Thursday's agenda. All in favor. Ayes carry.

- Kader Frendi moves to adjourn. Mike Banish seconds. Meeting adjourns at 2:00 pm.