

Faculty Senate Minutes

May 11 2017

Members Present:

	Present		Present		Present
Paul Bacdayan	X	Guarav Khanna	X	Nancy O'Connor	X
Jerry Blitefield	X	Anna Klobucka	X	Aminda O'Hare	X
Tom Boone	X	Hilary Kraus	X	Grant O'Rielly	X
Dario Borim		Susan Krumholz	X	Susan Raidy-Klein	X
Michelle Bowers		Wayne LeBlanc	X	Andrew Revell	
Rob Darst		Elizabeth Lehr	X	Ricardo Rosa	
James Edwards	X	Julia Li	X	Doug Roscoe	X
Chris Eisenhart	X	Chad McGuire		Nathan Rubien	X
Gavin Fay	X	Cristina Mehrrens	X	Kenneth Saltman	
Rebecca Flanagan	X	Victor Mendes		Frank Scarano	X
Jennifer Fugate		Kathy Miraglia	X	Monika Schuler	X
Michael Goodman	X	James Mistler		Glaucia Silva	X
Karen Gulbrandsen	X	Kari Mofford		Amit Tandon	
Adam Hausknecht	X	Pia Moisander	X	Iren Valova	
Shannon Jenkins		Jose Mora		Cheng Wang	
Arpita Joardar		Ziddi Msangi		Elizabeth Winiarz	X

Guests Present:

Terrance Burton; Kimberly Christopher; Chan Du; Yanlai Chen; Magali Carrera; Mohmmad Karim; Ram Bala; Amy Shapiro; David Milstone; Ben Winslow

Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm by Doug Roscoe.

Approval of Minutes from April 12

Motion to approve the minutes of April 12 was moved, seconded and approved.

Faculty Senate President Report

Board of Trustees meeting will be held on campus June 21 at 9:00 am in Woodland Commons; Committee of the Whole meets June 20 at 5:00—usually this includes a discussion of host campus.

Dave Milstone has faculty parking passes for Commencement.

Provost's Report

Eleven faculty have been promoted to Professor; two have been promoted to Senior Lecturer; two technicians have been promoted; one librarian has been promoted to Librarian.

Five programs have undergone AQAD review this year: Educational Leadership; Foreign Language and Literature; Liberal Arts; Mathematics; and Philosophy.

Individuals have been invited to serve as Standard Chairs for our upcoming NEASC self-study.

Emeritus Awards

Emeritus awards were recognized for eight faculty members.

Senate Officer Elections

Candidates in attendance made brief statements; ballots were collected and tabulated; winners were announced:

President: Doug Roscoe

BOT Rep: Paul Bacdayan

Steering Committee: Paul Bacdayan, Guarav Khanna, Gavin Fay, Anna Klobucka, Elizabeth Winiarz, Monika Schuler, Nancy O'Connor, Michael Goodman, Kathy Miraglia

Budget Update

Mary Louise Nunes presented on the FY 17 and FY 18 budgets. We are projected to end the fiscal year with a positive balance of about \$1.7 million. The FY 18 budget outlook was discussed and based on assumptions and projections, we are looking at a deficit of about \$3 million.

Michael Goodman updated the Senate on the RCM (Responsibility Centered Management) Budget task force. The group has been focusing on determining the specific parameters of the model, particularly indirect costs and their allocation. The next steps include finalizing the parameters, developing service level agreements among units, and writing an RCM manual. There will likely be a campus-wide presentation in the Fall. It is unlikely that the model will be ready for piloting by FY 19.

Commencement Participation Policy

The SFAAC reviewed the current policy, which permits students to participate in commencement if they have 9 or fewer credits. Their analysis suggested summer completion rates dropped considerably when students had more than six credits, suggesting two courses was the appropriate cutpoint. Their recommendation was to set the cutpoint at “two courses,” since they wanted to permit students to have a lab course if necessary. The Steering Committee recommended a cutpoint of 8 credits, which would permit two lab courses but prohibit taking three regular courses. The following language was moved, seconded and approved:

“With approval of the department chair and dean of their college, a student may petition to participate in graduation ceremonies only if they have no more than eight credits remaining, and those credits can be completed by the end of the following summer semester. Departments may revise this policy to meet accreditation criteria. Department chairs should take responsibility for monitoring students whose petitions they accept, and therefore have the right to deny student petitions on a case-by-case basis.”

Academic Standing Policy

The SFAAC has recommended a change in the policy that defines “good academic standing.” This is a follow-up issue to the recommendation earlier this year to change the policy so that spring athletes who do poorly in their first semester are not ineligible in their second semester to participate in their sport. Though the probation issue was fixed, the NCAA guidelines state that athletes must be in good academic standing in order to participate, and our policy states that students on probation are not in good academic standing. The SFAAC has recommended that “good academic standing” be defined as: “students whose cumulative GPA and semester GPA are 2.0 or above, as well as first-year students on Academic Probation immediately after completing their first term as a full-time undergraduate student.”

The Senate discussed the potential impact of the recommended change on other policies. There was also concern that our policies would define some students to be both on probation and in good academic standing. Concerns were raised again, as they were in the earlier discussion of athletes on probation, that struggling students may be better off not participating in sports. The possibility of setting a sub-2.0 minimum to be in good standing was also discussed (would it be inappropriate for a student who failed *all* their first-semester courses to be in good standing?).

The consensus of the Senate was that the issue should be recommitted to the SFAAC for further study. In particular, they would like some research into how other Division III institutions deal with this issue in their academic policies.

Adjournment

The senate meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.