Draft

Faculty Senate Minutes

November 20, 2009

Meeting called to order by Mike Hall

Approval of Minutes

Zibluk made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mooneyham seconded the motion. Motion passed.

New Business

A. Discussion of Caraway Closing

Concern was noted that the university did not discuss alternative solutions to safety and traffic flow problems without consulting the faculty and university at large. One of the main problems with the current proposed plan is the main entrance to the parking deck will no longer be accessible from Caraway. This closure will make it more difficult for conference attendees and others visiting campus to find the parking garage located next to the Student Center. Faculty members from the College of Health Professions expressed concerns related to the impact the closure would have on people who utilize the various clinics and numerous individuals from St. Bernard’s who meet with the faculty and students. The road closure would also limit the access of emergency vehicle that may need to get to the center of campus. Dr. Howard reported the current plan to close Caraway on campus due to safety issues. Faculty Senate members suggested the various constituents who will be most affected as a result of a major change be consulted prior to an arbitrary decision rather than after the decision has been made and announced. Members further requested the appropriate officials from Dr. Stripling’s office be invited to address the Senate to discuss these and other traffic flow issues.

B. Extra Compensation – Mike Hall

Faculty members who obtain extramural funding through grants are currently only allowed to make 20% above their yearly contracted salary. The 20% policy is not a state law but an ASU policy that has been in place approximately 20 years. State law does not allow an individual to make above their line item maximum. It was reported that the Distinguished Professor line was invented to allow an individual to be paid above their line item maximum when the person is generating money through grants. Few faculty members actually make salaries that meet their line item maximum. The question was asked if this affected faculty who consulted. The response was only money that flowed through the university was impacted by the extra compensation policy. Dr. Howard reported the 20% policy was not historically unusual in many states, but may be considered archaic. Faculty Senate members reported the university has lost faculty to other universities due to the current policy. Discussion was centered on the need for a petition or proposal to change the current extra compensation policy. Humphrey made a motion the Faculty Senate write a proposal to change the current extra compensation policy. The motion was seconded by Rowe. Motion carried. Mike Hall agreed to begin drafting a proposal.

Dr. Howard asked the proposal be expedited

C. Moodle – Mike Hall

Hall reported on a computer package named Moodle that is similar to Blackboard but is free to individual faculty members. He encouraged all faculty members to go online to investigate the software. Hall considered Moodle easier to use than Blackboard. Questions were asked concerning security, confidentiality, and FERPA issues. The response was faculty have the responsibility and control over security. Torres reported that Moodle had been adopted by universities such as UCLA and others. The cost is approximately one-third the cost of Blackboard. Moodle does tie into Banner and Blackboard. Hoeting reported that Moodle would be a long term savings but there are costs associated with university adoption as opposed to individual faculty adoption. Hoeting and Torres have been looking at Moodle. They are also running focus groups with faculty related to the start up of Blackboard Learning Environment. They plan to use the same focus group to take a look at Moodle during the Spring semester.

D. SGOC 09FA40 – Proposal to remove the final up down vote from proposals that have support

Moore made motion to approve the proposal as presented. Humphrey seconded the motion. If a proposal goes to all constituent groups who vote YES, the proposal will then be returned to the SGOC without the need for a second vote. If any constituent group votes No the proposal will have to go out for a second round. Only if a proposal has no changes would it not go back. Concern was stated this change could change the way Faculty Senate does business. It was recommended we may need to recommend changes in the form of amendments rather than suggestions. Motion Passed: Yes 18; No 4; Abstained 0

E. SGOC 09FA41 – Calendar

Humphrey moves we accept the calendars as presented. Win Bridges seconded. Table for two weeks to give Senate member time to consult their constituents

Old Business:

F. Blackboard Issues – William Allen

There are many rich resources available to faculty that can go beyond Blackboard. He is using Flicker for his Art History classes. He can teach online and mixed classes without using Blackboard. He recommended faculty look at what other programs can do for you.

Moore raised the issue of allowing guests access to your Blackboard class pages. Enrollment management or the Registrar says the enrollment in the course must be accurate. Blackboard in its current version does not allow you to add a noncredit seeking student into. This decision was made by the Registrar’s Office not IT. Faculty want to be able to add guest access to Blackboard for students with incomplete or who have already taken the class but need access to the information at a later time.

G. SGOC 09FA-39 – Compensated Leave – 2nd review, up/down Vote

Bridges made a motion the proposal be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Mooneyham. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned