

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
March 12, 2013

Present: Bentivenga, Beyer, Brown, Bryan, Chappy, Cotti Cowling, Garrison Hoglund, Kaltcheva, Kercher, Kostman Loewenstein, McCann, Neal, Petronicolos, Robson, Saginak, Siemers, Westphal, Wacholtz

Excused: Redington, Sipes

Absent: Liske, Roth

Administrative Representative: Perry Rettig

Academic Staff Representative: Vivian Foss

Oshkosh Student Association Representative: Scot McCullough

Guests: Lori Carrell, Carleen Vande Zande, Marvin Noltze

Minutes in Brief:

At the March 12, 2013 meeting of the Faculty Senate, OSA Representative Scot McCullough and Senate of Academic Staff Representative Foss gave their reports. Senator Neal provided the Faculty Representatives report and President Simmons presented the report for the Provost Administrative Staff meeting. The minutes of February 26, 2013 meeting were approved. All APC items were approved. The issue of grade inflation at UW Oshkosh as reported by Gannett News was discussed. The issue of faculty workload was also discussed. Senators Kostman and Bentivenga gave a report regarding Program Review scheduling and the extended length of the review process.

President Simmons called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

I. State of the University

A. Reports

1. OSA – (McCullough) – (1) OSA is working on a response to the Northwestern in response to the article related to Distribution of Grades, (2) elections are currently under way which also entail two referendums: one for a green fund, and one related to how often alcohol can be sold on campus.
2. SAS (Foss) – (1) Salary Equity Review Policies were approved for both Professional and Instructional Academic Staff, (2) Michael Beeth gave an update on the Flex Option Program, (3) Kim Nguyen gave a presentation on the Intranet, & (4) Bob Wise updated the senate on funding available for academic staff through the office of Grants and Faculty Development.
3. Faculty Reps (Neal) – Meeting highlights included: (1) Budget for higher education, (2) the 30 credit automatic transfer acceptability being considered, (3) discussion on the grade inflation article, (4) Salary Equity process for various campuses, & (5) it was noted at the meeting that UW Oshkosh is ahead of other institutions when it comes to policies and government structures.
4. PAS (Simmons) – (1) The Criminal background check resolution by Faculty Senate was approved and will move forward into the handbook, (2) The proposal for change in policy for web content from IMC was approved, (3) Handbook changes for tenure were reviewed, but required revisions, (4) The Faculty Development Director Search is moving forward with some candidate coming to campus soon, (5) Lori Carrell gave a USP update, & (6) there was a lengthy discussion about the recent newspaper article related to overloads.

II. Minutes of February 26, 2013

MOTION: Moved approval by McCann/Loewenstein. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

III. Old Business - None

IV. New Business

A. APC

1. COB – Revised required and elective courses in the Marketing Major
2. COB - Create new Emphasis, "Business Analytics"
3. COLS History Major and Minor, change core courses to reflect USP courses added
4. COLS Political Science: 1. New Minor "Law and Policy" and 2. Eliminate Emphasis "Legal Studies"
5. COLS Women's Stds Major and Minor: add WS 205 & 392 to fulfill specific electives
6. COLS Art Major and Minor, all Emphases, Remove list of courses from Program
7. COLS Art Major, 2D & 3D Studio Emphasis: add ART 483 as required, decrease number of credits in adv. electives, reduce the option for Art History.
8. COB New Major: Management. Three concentrations: Project management, Entrepreneurship & Family Business and International Business.
9. COB Healthcare Management Emphasis – remove BIOLOGY 112 as required as it no longer exists.

MOTION: Moved to approve the APC items by Loewenstein/Saginak. Passed.

FS1213-24 The Faculty Senate approved the following APC items: COB-Revised required and elective courses in the Marketing Major; COB-Create a new Emphasis, "Business Analytics"; COLS-History Major and Minor, change core courses to reflect USP courses added; COLS-Political Science-1.New Minor "Law and Policy" and 2. Eliminate Emphasis "Legal Studies"; COLS-Women's Studies Major and Minor-add WS 205 & 392 to fulfill specific electives; COLS-Art Major & Minor – all Emphases, remove list of courses from program; COLS-Art Major-2D & 3D Studio Emphasis-add ART 483 as required-decrease number of credits in adv. Electives, reduce the option for Art History; COB-New Major-Management-Three concentrations-Project management, Entrepreneurship & Family Business and International Business; COB-Healthcare Management Emphasis-remove BIO 112 as required as it no longer exists.

V. Discussion Items

A. Distribution of grades –

President Simmons shared the data from Marv Noltze in the Institutional Research Office, which shows that grades have been recently overall pretty steady.

B. Faculty Workload -

A lengthy discussion as held about faculty workloads, and reactions to the articles about workloads and grade inflation. It was reiterated that it usually unhelpful to attempt to correct them, as it tends to only make it worse. It was recommended that the Chancellor should offer the university's response.

C. Student Opinion Surveys –

Senators asked to have this issue revisited at the next meeting. Questions came up about the possibility of having the survey's sent out electronically.

VI. Committee Reports –

A. Program Review Scheduling – Kostman/Bentivenga

After a brief report of the findings related to the concern over the response time for the approvals of so many program reviews, it was proposed that a study and an updated process be put together in attempt to help keep these moving along in a timelier manner. It was noted that it would also be helpful to have a review cycle similar to that of accreditation.

MOTION: Moved to approve that APC can move forward on the project to do a study and update a timelier and efficient Program Review Approval Process on campus by Bentivenga/Kostman. 17-Yes, 1-Abstention. Passed.

FS1213-25 The Faculty Senate approved the motion to have APC move forward on the project to do a study and update a timelier and efficient Program Review Approval Process on Campus.

VII. Items from Members – None

VIII. Information Items –

A. USPC – University Studies Program Committee courses approved

MOTION: Moved to adjourn by Kercher/Bentivenga at 4:47 p.m.

Jim Simmons
President

April Dutschek
Recorder