Faculty Senate Meeting
Monday, December 4, 2017
Schuster 130

Members Present: Samuel Abegaz, Rajeev Dabke, Michael Dentzau, Sherika Derico, Vanessa Hicks, Natalie Higgins, Patrick Jackson, Michelle Jones, Krystal Kennel, Yuichiro Komatsu, Tesa Leonce, Paul Luft, Laurence Marsh, Ellen Martin, Chris McCollough, Jennifer Newbrey, Clay Nicks, James Ogburn, David Owings, Yesem Peker, Andrew Puckett, Amanda Rees, Diana Riser, Clifton Ruehl, Brian Schwartz, Joy Thomas, Neal Thomson, Rosa Williams

Members Absent with notice: Kevin Whalen

Guest Present: Richard Baxter, Phil Bryant, Mary Covington, Lawrence Dooley, John Finley, Mark Flynn, Abraham George, Frank Hardymon, Casey Hergett, Tim Howard, Floyd Jackson, Laurie Jones, Mary LeVan, John Lester, Patrick McHenry, Ellen Roberts, Mark Schmidt, Stephanie Speer, Uma Sridharan, Cindy Ticknor, Brian Tyo, David Williams

I. Call to order at 3:02pm

II. President’s comments and announcements – Dr. Chris Markwood was not present

III. Provost’s comments and announcements – Dr. Glenn Stokes in for Dr. Tina Butcher (TIME STAMP 00:01:15)

   a. Grades for Fall Semester are due by Wednesday, December 13th at noon.

   b. Graduation Ceremonies for December 2017 will be as follows:

      i. College of Art & Turner College of Business will be on Friday, December 15 @ 4pm

      ii. College of Education and Health Professionals will be on Saturday, December 15 @ 10am

      iii. College of Letters & Sciences will be on Saturday, December 16 @ 3pm

   c. Final Exams begin on Wednesday, December 6. Beginning Spring 2018 and every semester thereafter, the final exams will be included in the fifteen-week semester. The final exam period class meeting is mandatory to meet the SACS/COC and USG minutes for class meeting times.

   d. The Board Of Regents has eliminated the tuition differential between online and non-online courses. This will result in an estimated loss of $2 million.
e. All new undergraduate students from Alabama are now eligible for in-state tuition at Columbus State University.

f. Welcome Week begins on Tuesday, January 16th. All faculty who are not teaching as part of J-Term, should report then.

   i. Tuesday, January 16th: Continental Breakfast (9:00 to 9:30 am), President’s Welcome and Strategic Plan Roll-out (9:30 – 11:00am), College Meetings in the afternoon
   
   ii. Wednesday, January 17th: RiverPark sessions with Ken Steele: Student Support Professionals (8:30 – 10:00am), Instructional Faculty (10:30am – 12:00pm). Main Campus sessions with Ken Steele: Instructional Faculty (1:30 – 3:00pm), Student Support Professionals (3:30 – 5:00pm)
   
   iii. Thursday, January 18th: Departmental Meetings (8:00 – 10:00 am), Committee Meetings (10:00am – 12:00pm), Workshops and Panels (1:00pm – 5:00pm)
   
   iv. There are no scheduled activities for Friday, December 19th.

IV. Executive Officer’s comments and announcements – Ellen Martin (TIME STAMP 00:13:30)

   a. There will be a faculty vote on January 16th to approve the Promotion and Tenure Document.

       Dr. Martin encourages all senators to please inform their colleagues to be present and take part in the vote.

   b. Faculty Senate will no longer be holding their meetings in Schuster 130. The new location is not yet known.

   c. The January meeting will be on the 22nd.

V. Standing Committees (TIME STAMP 00:15:40)

   a. General Education Committee – Tim Howard (TIME STAMP 00:16:31)

       i. See attached the recommended changes regarding CSU general education learning outcomes and the committee report:
**Recommended Changes Regarding CSU General Education Learning Outcomes**

**CSU General Education Committee**

The following recommendations came from faculty teaching in the respective areas of the General Education Core.

### Area A2 Quantitative Outcomes

**Current**
- Solve problems by analyzing:
  1. a given dataset, formulating a representative model, and then using the model to predict additional related values of the variables; or
  2. a given graph and identifying behaviors of one variable as influenced by changes in the other variable; or
  3. a given equation and identifying fundamental characteristics of the corresponding graph.

**Proposed**
- Model and interpret quantitative problems from authentic contexts and everyday life situations.

### Area C Humanities / Fine Arts / Ethics

**Current**
- Generate knowledgeable interpretations of texts, works of art, or music.

**Proposed**
- Humanities outcome: Describe an example of creative or intellectual endeavor and articulate a connection to the human experience.
- Fine Arts outcome: Identify and interpret a piece of art, whether visual, performing, or musical, using /demonstrating knowledge of the language of that field.

### Area E Social Sciences

**Current**
- 1. Assess the environmental, political, economic, behavioral, or cultural factors that shape human activity across time and space.
- 2. Apply methods of inquiry, evaluate arguments, and draw conclusions in the social sciences.

**Proposed**
- Apply methods of inquiry, evaluate arguments, and draw conclusions in the social sciences.
- (Delete outcome 1)

In addition, the General Education Committee proposes the following changes in **Area B**.

**Current**
- Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively verbally and non-verbally in various contexts. *(Applies only to COMM 1110.)*

**Proposed**
- All courses in Area B will align with one of the following outcomes:
  1. Demonstrate an ability to communicate effectively verbally and non-verbally in various contexts.
  2. Present logical, informed, and evidence-based solutions to real-world problems. *(New)*
ii. Feedback for the proposed changes to the General Education Learning Outcomes is encouraged and can be submitted online at:

https://academics.columbusstate.edu/catalogs/current/degreesandprograms/genedassess.php. All comments and feedback are reviewed regularly.

iii. This proposal has been shared with the Deans and the Chairs Assembly.

iv. Questions and discussion about the proposed changes: These outcomes are to assess the learning that takes place in the course; they are not based on individual learning. They will never be used to assess faculty.

b. Faculty Grievance Document – Larry Dooley (TIME STAMP 00:35:20)

i. The comments received since last meeting were primarily needed wordsmithing and editorial types of corrections such as more clarity regarding calendar days vs. business days.

ii. Questions and discussion about the document.
Approved via e-mail ballot

iii. Under The Faculty Hearing Committee section, a sentence will be inserted saying: “If the chair is challenged, there should be a vote of the committee members to decide if the chair should be removed or not.” This clarification will be added throughout the document.

iv. The current statues do not include the information about the grievance. It is all about the dismissal. What this document does is it reorders the faculty handbook. It talks about dismissal as well as the grievance process.

v. Questions and discussion about the most recent changes.

vi. Motion to approve as presented with the highlighted changes and to bring it forward to the faculty for a vote: Michael Dentzau, Second: Neal Thomson

vii. VOTE: 25/0/0 – Motion to approve the document and bring it forward to the faculty for a vote passes.

c. Faculty Development Committee - Yuichiro Komatsu (TIME STAMP 01:18:35)

i. The committee brought forward a proposal to change the ex-officio membership. Currently, the director of the Center for Global Engagement and the director of Sponsored Programs serve as ex-officio members. The proposed change would be to replace these two members with the Associate Provost for Graduate Education and the Director of the Faculty Center. Justification for the change: Historically, the applications had very little to do with the external grants and did not need their expertise to evaluate the applications and the committee is seeking a representative from the Provost’s office to better align with current practice.

ii. Questions and discussion about the membership change: Perhaps the committee should not be so specific regarding the Provost position. Suggested terminology: “A liaison from the Provost’s office” or “The Provost or their designee.” There was also some discussion
Approved via e-mail ballot

about keeping Sponsored Programs on the committee. Yuichiro Komatsu, current chair of the Faculty Development Committee, will take these suggestions back to the committee for further discussion.

iii. The Faculty Development Committee also voted unanimously to restrict those members that serve at the University level from also serving at the College Level. The committee moves that a faculty member serving on the Faculty Development Committee may not serve on the College Review Committee. The committee agreed that more diverse vetting of applications will give us a more objective and comprehensive review process.

iv. Motion to approve this change, Michael Dentzau, Second: James Ogburn

v. VOTE: 24/0/0 – Motion passes

VI. Old Business (TIME STAMP 01:28:37)

a. Faculty Affairs Sub-Committee for Faculty Senate – Ellen Martin (TIME STAMP: 01:28:50)

i. Call for nominations to fill this committee:

1. COA: James Ogburn (2 year term)
2. COEHP: Michael Dentzau (1 year term)
3. COLS: Diana Riser (1 year term)
4. TCOBCS: Laurence Marsh (2 year term)
5. Library: David Owings (2 year term)

ii. Motion to approve the list of nominees for the Faculty Affairs Sub-Committee, Michael Dentzau, Second: Amanda Rees

iii. VOTE: 21/0/0 – Motion passes

VII. New Business (TIME STAMP 01:33:50)

a. Salary update – Laurie Jones (TIME STAMP: 01:34:12)

i. The averages for the latest round of merit increases are thus:
1. All Faculty Average: 1.97%, College of the Arts: 1.95%, Turner College of Business: 2.09%, College of Education and Health Professions: 2.03%, College of Letters and Sciences: 1.93%, Deans & Associate Deans: 2.32%, VPs and Assistant VPs: 1.91%, All Staff: 2.04%

b. Annual Course Scheduling and Registration - Andrew Puckett (TIME STAMP 01:35:30)

   i. Concerns have been raised regarding the new full-year course registration policy, being implemented as of Spring 2018, such as:

      1. Negative impact to new/transfer students who arrive late in the Spring registration cycle, or during Summer or Fall terms.
      2. Reduced flexibility in scheduling courses based on student interest.
      3. Increased difficulties in planning courses taught by adjuncts and graduate teaching assistants.
         a. There may be more cancellations of classes.

   4. Questions for the Administration:
      a. Would full-year scheduling be enough to reach the desired goals?
      b. Do we know of specific universities that do full-year registration?
         i. Have similar-sized institutions done this without negatively impacting their students.

   5. Questions and discussion regarding this new policy.
      a. Discussion on how students in sequence classes will be affected if they fail a step in the sequence.
      b. The point of implementing this is to improve Retention, Progression, and Graduation. It will also help with planning in the long term.
      c. Do we know of other institutions that are already doing this?
d. How will Study Abroad courses be affected?

e. Is it possible to see the baseline data with retention? Where are the problems? If this is to be imposed on us, we need to see what we are working for or trying to change?

f. Have we asked the students if they want this?

6. Dr. Tina Butcher will be able to discuss this at the January meeting. If any senators have specific concerns they would like to be addressed, they are encouraged to send them to Dr. Butcher or Dr. Martin before the meeting.

c. New UITS policies - Abraham George (TIME STAMP 01:57:12)

i. UITS policy change – overview

1. Technology changes more frequently these days than any other time in the past.

2. It is a challenge to stay current while maintaining the highest level of security.

3. Technology changes impact users’ experiences and IT operations.

4. New technology, both hardware and software, are affected more frequently, both at an institutional level and at the USG system level.

5. UITS uses e-mail, the UITS help desk, and their technicians to communicate information regarding new policies and changes.

6. USG system requirements impact how we deliver UITS services on campus.

7. One USG project known as People Soft Human Capital Management Initiative was a collaboration between Human Resources, UITS, and the system office that started in 2016 and was completed in July 2017. The project resulted in the replacement of Novell network access systems as well as login changes for the H and P drives.
8. UITS has been following the Information Security Summary Policy, Appropriate Information System Use Policy, and Local Admin Security Policy for a while. These are three security policies that talk about user access data security protection and guidelines that UITS follows.

ii. Questions and discussion regarding faculty losing admin privileges on their office computer and how this reduces productivity.

iii. Abraham George will come to the January meeting to further address some of the concerns raised by faculty. It is advised that the faculty send their comments to Dr. Martin or Abraham George before the meeting.

VIII. End of Meeting at 5:12 pm