

Minutes for Faculty Senate

February 16, 2011

3:00-5:00PM, SC310

1. (3:00) Approval of agenda (approved)
2. (3:05) Approval of the minutes of the 1/19/11 meeting
 - a. change page 6 to signify that potential grade resolution was only a 1st reading and not actually a passed resolution
3. (3:10) Resolution regarding grading policy
 - a. (see below, 2nd reading)
4. (3:20) Financial Forum;
 - a. March 17th, 12:45pm in Student Center to discuss allocation of funds (e.g., academics vs. athletics)
5. (3:25) Committee to advise the provost's faculty hiring.
 - a. (Suggestion from FSEB: 3 members, with annual rotating membership.)
 - b. Matt: Some concern related to committee member bias towards their home departments. Difficult to avoid bias, but it may be mitigated by generating a rotating membership on an annual basis. 3 members only would keep committee small and would still allow for a sense of transparency in how Provost makes these decisions.
 - c. Rationale for committee is disappointment in "lack of transparency" perceived during last selection process.
 - d. FSEB will prepare formal resolution related to committee's composition and purpose.
6. (3:35) Student's "preferred e-mail address"—
 - a. a proposed change in university policy [Kathy Robertson, IT] Listed "preferred email address" is often old and unused and has created problems in using my.emich email class feature.
 - b. Motion to support IT's desire to make preferred email address students' "name@emich.edu".
 - c. Kathy also mentioned that IT will be moving faculty-specific links to a new submenu separate from course-specific submenu.
7. (3:55) Provost's Minutes
 - a. Budget announcement from Gov. Snyder tomorrow – outlook is not great and big cuts are expected; expect to receive reaccreditation soon with strong praise;
 - b. State and federal laws regarding textbook pricing [see attached] Provost's office will not engage in determining which textbooks are selected by faculty.
 - c. Bette Warren: faculty are encouraged to "shop around" when choosing textbooks and consider student price; Faculty need to submit textbook selections to bookstores to be compliant with legislation that requires disclosure of textbook information – working

on generation of new software that will allow for easy submission of information, Bette's requesting feedback on what features the system should include; continue to use my.emich in short-term

8. (3:45) Appointments (see below)
9. (4:10) Discussion of proposed changes to undergraduate policies [Bette Warren, see below]
 - a. With regard to academic calendars, Bette believes (has proof) that past calendars were submitted to FS, briefly explained some of the constraints on setting a calendar
 - b. With regards to proposed grading resolution, Bette is supportive but sees some issues with reconciling Banner to match proposed changes;
 - c. with regards to part (1) of the proposed resolution, Bette foresees an idyllic system which requires notation related to what will be done, and when, to change an Incomplete and also include what grade the Incomplete will become if the Incomplete is not completed.
 - d. FS will review possible changes to probation policy at next meeting.
10. (4:20) Graduate Council news [Tim Brewer]
 - a. Plan to vote on raising GPA requirement from 2.5 to 2.7
11. (4:30) New Distinguished Faculty Awards policies [Marti Bombyk]
12. (4:40) Report from the EEFC (Pray Harold and Mark Jefferson projects)
13. (4:50) President's Remarks
 - a. Database of FS appointments and committees; construction is almost complete including web-based front end
 - b. IT governance structure; grumblings over large number of IT committees – it's been whittled down to only 5 (from 6-9) committees

Attending: K Banerji (MGT), D Chou (CIS), Y Xie (G&G), S Gray (WGST), S McCracken (CMTA), M Zinggeler (WL), P Koehn (P&A), J Nims (LIB), K Saules (PSYCH), M Peters (AAS), M Reedy (ART), L Lee (SpEd), J Eisenbach (BIO), T Brewer (GC), J Texter, (SET), W Zirk (MAD), M Higbee (H&P), J Carbone (SHS), R Orrange (SAC), L Kolopajlo (CHEM), M Evett (COSC), S Nelson (NURS), K Kustron (STS), D Barton (MKT), P Francis (L&C), D Crary (ECON), T Moreno (HPHP), J Kay, ex officio

Secretary: Patrick Koehn
With thanks to J Carbone.

Appointments:

14. Positions to fill

- a. Search committee for the Director of the Faculty Development Center (4) [Jayne Yatzak, Health Science; Natalie Dove, PSYCH; Debi Silverman, Health Science; Daryl Barton, Marketing; Lidia Lee, Spec.Ed]; elected Natalie, Suzanne, Debi & Lydia
- b. Violence in the Workplace Committee, 2 [Perry Francis, Leadership&Counseling; Donna Selman, SAC; Linda Kinczkowski, STS; Derrick Fries, Special Ed]; elected Perry & Donna
- c. URSLC reviewer of FRF Proposals from CHHS [Sandra Restino, NUR, conditional naming pending her acceptance]
- d. Academic Affairs Educational Environment and Facilities Planning Committee (1 from COT; Steve Weber, via acclimation)
- e. eFellows Committee
 - i. COE [Michael McVey, Education Media & Tech; Myung-sook Koh, SpecEd] elected Michael McVey
 - ii. CHHS [Frank Fedel, HPHP]
- f. E-Mail Evaluation Committee (2) [James Banfield, STS, via acclimation]
- g. Student Success Council. (2-year term)
 - i. CHHS [Sandra Nelson, Nursing, via acclimation]
- h. Institutional Accreditation (AQIP) Committee, Helping Students Learn
- i. Budget Council (COE)
- j. Non-Academic Information Technology Advisory Committee (2-yr term) [Rachel Cheng, LIB, via acclimation; (moved to email eval cmte)]
- k. Faculty Development Center Advisory Committee (2-yr)
 - i. CHHS [Debi Silverman, Health Science, via acclimation]
 - ii. Alternate from any school [Doris Fields, CMTA; Mary Strasma, HiPh; Krish Narayanan, COSC] elected Doris Fields

Proposed Academic Policies

The proposed Academic Probation Policy seeks to advance student academic success by:

- Provides an early warning to students whose performance is trending down.
- Adding a requirement for minimum course completion rate (CH satisfactorily completed/CH attempted) to the minimum cumulative grade point average to the standard for Good Academic Standing to encourage progress toward degree.
- Providing an academic plan for students who are not able to return to Good Academic Standing after one term on Academic Probation, and dismissing students who are not making adequate progress before they amass too great a deficit to overcome if they leave EMU and want to return later.
- Aligning the Financial Aid and Academic Probation Policies so that students who are ultimately not successful do not leave with such a crushing debt.

The proposed Course Repeat Policy would limit the number of times a course can be repeated and reduce the total number of courses that can be repeated to improve a grade without intervention. The current policy allows/encourages course repeats whether or not there is academic value to the student, and in may severely impact a student's course completion rate, making it incompatible with the proposed Academic Probation Policy.

Proposed Resolution Regarding Grading Policy:
From Marti Bombyk on behalf of the Executive Board
January 18 2011

Faculty Senate Resolution

Whereas there are repeated concerns expressed by faculty regarding certain grading policies, be it resolved that

1. EMU change its policy of requiring hard copy submission of a complete Incomplete grade within one year of its occurrence. The faculty want to be able to handle this electronically.
2. Grade changes caused by a clerical error or the student's advocacy for why the grade should be different should not require the signature of the department head/ director and college dean if the change occurs within the first month of the subsequent semester.
3. The letter grade that represents failing a course should be changed from E to F.
4. A faculty member shall be appointed to the committee of the Records and Registration office that sets grading policy.

Respectfully submitted,
Marti Bombyk