Faculty Senate Minutes
Session 9
(approved 2/21/24)
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 (zoom)
3:15-5:15 pm

Attendance: Corsianos, Longworth (guest), Chawla (guest), Bruya, Flowers, Simoes, Pawlowski, Spragg, Curran, Ashur, Winning, Lee, Beilfuss, Narayanan, Mario, Fields (guest), Welsh, Bushinski, Pressley-Sanon, Millán Serna, Elton, Ramsey, Walsh, Jefferson, Brewer, McCleary, Gray, Ferdousi, Neufeld, Foster, Carpenter, Putzu, Proulx (guest), Barton, El-Sayed (guest).

I. Call to Order 3:16pm

II. Approval of the agenda moved by Pressley-Sanon, seconded by Millán Serna passed 19 for, 0 against, 0 abstaining.

III. Approval of the minutes from 01/17/2024, changing "Brian" to "Bruya" in the attendance, moved by Pressley-Sanon, seconded by Millán Serna. Passed 19 for, 0 against, 1 abstaining.

IV. Appointments and Elections   (Elton)

    A. Elections

    1. I.T.'s Business Operations Committee – 1 opening (faculty from any college) – Nominee Information
    One nominee: Suleiman Ashur, Visual and Built Environments (GACET)
    Outcome of vote: appointed.

    2. University Budget Committee - 1 opening (faculty from CAS-Sciences)
    One nominee: Augustine Ikeji, Computer Sciences
    Outcome of vote: appointed.

    3. University Grade Grievance Committee - 1 opening (faculty from any college) – Nominee Information
    Four nominees (listed alphabetically), *vote for only one*
        1. Hannah Blatchord, Geography and Geology (CAS)
        2. Audrey Farrugia, Special Ed and Comm Sciences and Disorders (COE)
        3. Raed Jarrah, School of Visual and Built Environments (GACET)
        4. Steve Krause, English (CAS)
    Outcome of vote: Blatchford selected.

B. Ongoing vacancies

    1. Educational Environment & Facilities Committee (EEFC) – 1 faculty member from COE

    2. Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory Committee (IAAC) – 1 faculty member from GACET

    3. Faculty Senate Budget and Resource Committee (FSBRC) – 1 faculty member from CAS-Sciences

V.

    A. Provost's Update

       i. Equipment requests from faculty

           a. Provost's office inventoried equipment in fall (anything with value over $5000)

           b. Just approved first round of requests for equipment last week. Will forward list to FSEB. There are additional requests where we need more information before we can approve, or mis-categorize requests (software did not fall under the definition.)

           c. Want to work on a replacement plan for equipment with an input body

           Q: What is the timing for rest of the requests to be approved?

           A: Maybe April; need to spend by end of fiscal year in June

       ii. Update on internal system for listing course books and course materials prior to semester start.

           a. We would like to move the list to an internal site, rather than having it curated by the bookstore. Please see the email from Fields re required submissions.

           Q: Can we cut the bookstore out of purchases of books by scholarship students?

           A: We need some vendor to coordinate payment; but we will consider some other possibilities.

           Q: Required material includes?

           A: Any software, article list, books, anything that is required by instructor

           Q: What is the consequence of incomplete listing?

A: EMU can be fined and put on a compliance plan. E.g. we were fined for not explaining how are fee structure works. We were also fined for lacking latest date of attendance information.

Q: Could we provide our own course website with this information?

A: Caution against this for reasons of cyber security; and diversity of tech makes it harder for university to monitor.

Q: is there a percentage threshold for compliance? What about a vulnerability to political attacks on what we teach? Can we separate issues of cost support (helping students shop around) from requirements for full listing?

A: No percentage is declared, but we want to make a good faith effort. We might be able to limit the listing to admitted students rather than making it fully public.

Q: What is the timing for this change?

A: Aiming for fall implementation of Winter 2025 lists. Working with library faculty.

 Fields will send the next letter requesting course materials in March; also look on Provost's website concerning materials.

iii. Requests for faculty hires have been solicited. Your departments should be working on their requests. Interviews for current searches should be finished before end of semester.

iv. Will finalize decision on cluster hires early next week.

v. We will post advertisements seeking university-level directors of undergraduate studies and graduate studies within two weeks. Internal candidates are allowed, and we are posting nationally.

Q: What about AVP for Academic Programs position?

A: Will schedule after we have interviews for the graduate studies' position lined up.

Q: Please comment on reorganization of (GA)CET.

A: We are moving ahead with the plan that was described at the end of last year.

vi. Registration Blitz for March 26. We would like faculty and program advisors to attend.

vii. Update on the Diploma Equity Project - EMU DEP presentation

a. Longworth met with Doug Ross several years ago, when working on Detroit Drives Degrees, and it did not seem like a good fit for EMU then, but now it seems the program will be more suitable.

b. There is evidence that giving scholarships does not affect completion rates (e.g. Kalamazoo promise program).

c. We will not pay the consultant, they are a non-profit. Their goal is to graduate students from SE Michigan. We want them to provide funding for programs we design.

Comment: Why weren't faculty involved with the discussions up to this point? E.g. the FDC component seems to be a fully-developed proposal.

Response: Nothing is written or designed yet. They were provided with EMU's analysis of retention rates; then they provided follow up interviews with 12 students.

Q: What is the fundraising goal?

A: They raised perhaps $2 million for Oakland University but that would not be enough by itself for what we envision.

B.   Update on glass walls by DPS and ZeroEyes gun detection system testing   (Corsianos)

i. There are 3 options being considered for classrooms with glass walls.
    a. Film that is bullet resistant – prevents glass from shattering but the bullet
    would pass through.
    b. Frosted film to prevent line of site from outside.
    c. Blinds that could be closed quickly

ii. Replacing with drywall has not been considered.

iii.   Please seek input from your faculty about glass walls, but also see form below
getting input about facilities in general: Senators should coordinate input from their
department.

iv. Zeroeyes testing begins this Friday during the day. We would also like to check the system at night.

Q: Does the system flag people by race and gender?
A: Allegedly the system flags only objects.

VI. Guest

A. [Online Ethical and Responsible Conduct of Research](#)- -training modules for faculty and staff applying for external funding. (Sonia Chawla, Assistant VP for Academic Research and Regulatory Compliance)

i. Thank you to all faculty who helped determine what modules were needed, and for providing content of modules. The group added use of generative AI in research, but otherwise the list of modules is based on what FS approved previously.

ii. The modules may need to be ported to Canvas, but the content is mostly completed.

iii. Training should be completed before submitting a grant, but let Chawla know if this is problem with the timing of your grant application and we can work something out. There is a   little more flexibility for certain NSF requirements since they require training in a "timely   fashion."

Q: How do we initiate our training?
A: We are working on logistics.   Ideally your ORDA contact will let you know what you as a faculty member need to do. The deadline for full implementation is soon; we may have to port   from Pageup to Canvas.

Q: what is the time needed to complete modules?
A: most are about a page or two; data management, the longest, is 5 pages.

Q: Will we receive certification?
A: This is the intent, but this is a bit tricky to implement (it does not seem to work in Canvas—there is no student list to work from). Ideally you would not need to contact Chawla to do the modules, but right now you have to contact her to access the needed modules.

Q: Implementation timeline?
A: Starting over the summer—think of summer as beta testing.

VII. Old Business

A. AGB consultant on shared governance Dr. Steven Bahls (update)
i. The group met today. Finalizing the survey on shared governance, to distribute March 4th. Faculty are paying for half of Bahl's contract.

Q: Will we put the survey through the IRB this time?

A: no, since no one intends to publish.

Q: Will the Board of Regents be involved?
A: We have a verbal commitment from some Board members, but we will follow up tomorrow with them.

Q: Will lecturers be surveyed? Could a lecturer representative attend your meeting?
A: We will discuss at the next shared-governance meeting whether the survey should be done in stages or limited to tenure-track faculty.

Q: Can the master planning survey go out to lecturers as well?
A: Will follow up at FSEB next week

Comment: we should draw on faculty who have expertise with question design for surveys
A: A lot of work was done when Bahls came before, so we are making small changes.

B. Scott J. Storrar
    Executive Director, Facilities Planning, Maintenance & Construction
    Campus Planning survey - Google form
    5 year Facility Renovation Plan Final Report 2016-2021

    i. Senators, please get feedback from your departments about buildings, and collate in the form.
    You could ask for feedback at a department meeting. Would like the feedback by March 20th.
    Some FS members asked whether they should distribute the survey to each faculty member.
FSEB will discuss and let you know if there is a change of plan.

VIII. New Business

    A. February 8, 2024 - BOR meeting Faculty Affairs session 10:30 am- C.A.I.A.R.E. will present report on environmental scan of DEI work on campus - CAIARE presentation

    B. Committee Reports:

    i. Academic Issues (Gray)
            a. Approved minutes appear on the agenda
            b. Everyone on the committee supports test optional admissions.
            c. Collecting data and working on suggestions concerning language proficiency tests
            d. We are following up on the course modality discussion.
            e. Still waiting on information on tutoring and advising

    ii. Graduate Committee (McCleary)

            a. Have submitted input on combined programs which has led to some being approved
            b. Working on a policy to ensure rigor for cross-listing graduate courses
            c. Details can be found in the committee's October and November minutes

IX. Announcements

    A.   Next Faculty Senate is scheduled for **Wed. February 21 (zoom)**

X. Adjourned 5:21pm