

Faculty Senate Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2017 at the Alumni House, 1:30 PM

Attendance

J. Aleshunas, L. Baden, K. Corley, A. Geraghty-Rathert, G. Glasgow, T. Green, M. Hulsizer, J. Palmer, D. Psihountas, T. Reilly, G. Renz, B. Rodney, S. Schroeder, Q. Shao, H. Singaravelu and J. Stulce.

II. Approval of Minutes

1. No minutes approved.

III. New Business

1. All members of IT-Faculty committee were unanimously approved upon motion by J. Aleshunas, seconded by B. Rodney. The members will be: Jim Curtis, Ryan Gregg, Mike Hulsizer, DJ Kaiser, Ralph Olliges, Gary Renz, Joe Roberts, James Robey, and David Werfelmann.
2. Salary and Fringe Benefit Committee update: D. Psihountas said she had been told Webster's Board of Trustees had not voted on the tentative 2017-2018 compensation agreement between the committee and the administration. She could not say anything more about this topic until the upcoming Faculty Assembly meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2017.
3. D. Psihountas discussed the concept of "Blended Education," which she defined as "using more than one format to teach." No formal action was taken, although there was discussion. The following matters were discussed:
 - a. The military wants to use shortened terms because their students have little time for classes and want to be finished with degrees quickly.
 - b. The VA will not reimburse military students of online classes, but apparently they will reimburse for WebNet classes. Needs to be checked out further.
 - c. Concerns have been raised about how using shorter terms may affect learning outcomes.
 - d. The use of WebNet is being promoted by the administration. Who controls the faculty training for WebNet is under discussion. A small group of faculty are working with IT, OLC, and FDC to determine the training content. Another question is whether Webster should use technical help to run the technical aspects of WebNet courses rather than try to train faculty to use WebNet technology.

IV. Old Business

4. The Senate unanimously approved a motion by T. Reilly, seconded by J. Stulce, that Anne Geraghty-Rathert replace Mike Hulsizer for the At-Large Senate seat for one year until May 2018.

5. L. Baden described ongoing problems between the Journal and Global Marketing and Communications (GMC). He said the administration has a policy that no staff or administrator can speak to the Journal without first obtaining GMC's approval. L. Baden said there is supposed to be a meeting with Rick Rockwell on the matter. M. Hulsizer and other Senators said they think the Faculty Senate should make a statement in support of the students and Journal sometime in the future. The Senate may ask Provost Schuster to come to a Faculty Senate meeting to discuss what is going on. No formal action was taken.
6. H. Singaravelu presented a document that described discontent and fear among faculty in the Geneva campus and in South Carolina. The Senate would like to have the Geneva review publicly released.
7. G. Renz presented his proposed changes to the University Policy Handbook clarifying replacement terms and adding a new section clarifying how committee members can be removed from committees. After discussion, G. Renz agreed to add additional language to the document. He will present the new section at another Senate meeting.
8. Q. Shao described problems she had heard about the Confucius Institute relating to money, housing, and teaching issues. No action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:30 p.m.