

Faculty Assembly Meeting

November 10, 2015

EAB 253/262

3:00 – 4:30 PM

Gwyneth Williams, Faculty Senate President, called the meeting to order.

I. Announcements

- a) There is a new process for issuing contracts for adjunct faculty. (Handout)
- b) Dance Through the Decades is one of the final Centennial events and takes place Friday, November 13th throughout the day.
- c) Final Centennial Event is Saturday, November 14th and is a Fundraising Gala. It has been reported that the University will net approximately \$700 to \$800 thousand dollars that will go into the student scholarship fund.
- d) President Stroble will address the Faculty Assembly in the early spring. The Handbook states that once a year the President of the University will address the Faculty Assembly and this practice has gone into disuse. The Senate wants to reinstate this practice.

II. Update on Faculty Priorities Initiative

- a) Senators have met with almost all departments on this initiative.
- b) Data are being compiled and categories and themes are emerging.
- c) Report should be finalized by spring break
- d) Spring Institute (March 18, 2016) will focus on discussing the results of this initiative.

III. Report on Budget (Julian Schuster)

Provost Schuster gave a report on graduate and undergraduate enrollment and where we stand with budget.

Undergraduate enrollment is approximately 40 students short of what the University's goal was. Graduate enrollment is difficult in military and metro sectors. Online enrollment is exceeding expectations.

The administration is evaluating the possibility of providing a one-time injection to individual faculty/staff members' pay. After data has been gathered, it will be taken to the compensation committee of the Board of Trustees. Salary and Fringe Benefits Committee and the Senate President will be meeting with Provost Schuster after a decision has been made.

IV. Report on Thailand Campus (Keith Welsh)

Keith Welsh serves as the ombudsman for the Thailand campus and gave a report from his visit to the campus during summer 2015. He reported that improvements have been made since the Site Review report was issued last academic year.

V. Report of FAFSA changes: implications for the University (Robert Parrent)

There have been changes in Federal deadlines for submitting paperwork for financial aid. This is a huge shift in the timeline for admissions and will affect all universities. There is no impact to the upcoming 2016-2017 FAFSA using prior year tax information. Changes will occur for the 2017-2018 Academic Year. Starting with the 2017-2018 Academic Year, FAFSA application are due three months earlier than in years' past. This means that students will be notified of financial aid earlier.

The impact to Webster University will include:

- 1) Changes may affect application deadlines and notification timing for financial aid and enrollment
- 2) Tuition price information will be needed by September 1, 2016 for the 2017-2018 AY.
- 3) Ability to create financial aid award letters by November 1, 2016 for 2017-2018 AY.
- 4) Presidential scholarship and registration events may need to be held earlier as well as housing assignments and orientation events.
- 5) 2017-2018 AY updates from Jenzabar will be needed prior to October 1, 2016
- 6) There is the potential to double financial aid appeals due to two-year old tax information

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:27 p.m.