

Academic Assembly
October 31, 2016
2:05 – 3:35pm, STCN 130

MINUTES

Present: Sarah Bee, Rick Block, Pat Buchsel, Terri Clark, Brooke Coleman, Theresa Earenfight, Mike Huggins, Kate Koppelman, Chuck Lawrence, Viviane Lopuch, Agnieszka Miguel, David Neel, Michael Ng, Trung Pham SJ, Frank Shih, John Strait, Charles Tung, Ashli Tyre, Dan Washburn, Braden Wild

Minutes taken by Rosa Hughes

- I. Review 10-10-16 Minutes
 - A. Item IV.B. change from “to discuss” to “to apprise them of situation before university announcement”
 - B. Approved with no oppositions and two abstentions
- II. AcA Statement on Union Decision
 - A. Generally well-received
 - B. No formal reply from administration
 - C. AcA does not have a mechanism to record votes at Executive Session
- III. Provost’s Awards for Teaching
 - A. One award for teaching and one for research/scholarship
 - B. Two AcA representatives needed for committee
 - C. Kristy Skogerboe is chairing the committee
 - D. Seems inappropriate to use time at graduation to celebrate faculty
 - E. David Neel will reach out to get a description of workload and send to AcA to seek representatives from schools/colleges
- IV. Committee Membership
 - A. Matteo Ricci College has chosen that, due to extenuating circumstances, Dan Washburn will remain as the MRC representative on AcA this year
 - B. University Rank and Tenure Committee member
 1. Professor Anita Jablonski nominated by College of Nursing
 2. Should these always come to AcA?
 3. Encourage AcA reps to push for regular, periodic school faculty meetings and cover these kind of appointments
 4. URTC is there to make sure the process was followed correctly, not to make judgments
 5. Motion to approve nomination – approved with no opposition or abstention
 - C. Budget Advisory Committee member
 1. Sarah Bee is in first position, seeking a representative for the second position
 - a. Meets biweekly, chaired by Connie Kanter, CFO
 - b. Advisory role, does not vote
 - c. Approximately 10 members, including 2 faculty members
 - d. Ideally would be an AcA rep, but can also appoint a non-AcA faculty member
 2. Connie may come to an AcA meeting this fall to look at the budgeting process
 - a. Speak with Connie about next steps in having more voting power for faculty
 3. Motion to appoint Pat Buchsel as the second AcA representative – approved with no oppositions or abstentions
- V. AcA Priorities for the Year

- A. Faculty Senate Discussion
 - 1. Background on proposed move to Faculty Senate
 - a. Proposal to decentralize to a number of smaller faculty committees and the Senate would meet less frequently to review the work of those committees
 - b. Strong feeling that we should not be only advisory, co-determinative power in academic decision-making
 - 2. Issues
 - a. Seems to be limited by resources, no plan in proposal for growing resources
 - b. Difficulty staffing committees already
 - c. Shift could be a chance for us to redefine ourselves in an important way, widen purview
 - d. Under the current AcA structure, we need to have any current representatives on committees report back to AcA regularly
 - e. Perhaps change requirement to say if you sit on AcA, you must serve on one or more AcA committees
 - f. Challenge of institutional inertia
 - g. Senate model has worked well in A&S and Student Government in the last few years
 - 3. Moving forward
 - a. AcA should figure out this framework this year while we have an opportunity with a supportive President and Provost
 - b. NWCCU external accreditors will be on campus in Spring 2018, we can use their visit to push for resources for shared governance development
 - 4. Motion to reconstitute Faculty Senate committee from last year
 - a. Approved with one opposition
 - b. Draft of Senate model by February
 - c. Faculty fora to present the draft in spring quarter
 - d. Michael Ng, Ashli Tyre, Viviane Lopuch
- B. APR Frequency for Faculty
 - 1. Proposal to shift these to every two or three years, depending on school/college, for tenured and senior instructor faculty
 - 2. Currently the APR is codified in the Faculty Handbook, so a change in timeline would need to be a proposed revision to the handbook
 - 3. In the case of having a problematic or struggling faculty member, the annual evaluation is an important tool for Chairs to record what is happening
 - 4. Annual review would still be required for non-tenure track and non-senior instructors
 - 5. An anticipated issue will be the merit-pay system needing yearly feedback
 - 6. Merit pay in general does not seem to be working well
- C. Priorities List
 - 1. Expand AcA membership
 - 2. Policies – academic policies are covered by Academic Policy Review Committee
 - 3. Student Code of Conduct (Student Development)
 - a. AcA needs increased communication with Student Development
 - b. In areas where Student Development does not allow students to contribute (such as Code of Conduct), faculty need to be involved
 - c. Maybe time to develop a general Code of Conduct for all SU constituents
 - 4. Visit from President
 - 5. Academic Freedom – how to extend to staff and students, and in relation for increased push to Jesuit, Catholic identity

6. Decrease number of NTT faculty by moving them to TT lines
7. Administrator Evaluation process
8. Ombudsperson – expand to staff and students?
9. Written procedures for censure and votes of no confidence for administrators
10. Issues with GPA-based awards at graduation
11. Teaching evaluations – these have been shown to be unjust based on gender and race
12. Form grievance committee to review grievance policy
13. Civility and bullying, safe spaces, conduct in classrooms
14. Hiring committees, unconscious bias – need training materials, diversity focus