

## Minutes for Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting

June 25, 2012

- I) Revised minutes from June 11 meeting approved.
- II) Faculty BOT presentations
  - A) Lisa McGarity will be presenting in June
  - B) Will skip presentation at July BOT meeting
- III) No updates on new President
- IV) Building issues
  - A) Building G has been taken over by IT
  - B) Buildings H and L have serious mold issues. It has become a union issue because of health complaints. Steve Nice may be making a presentation at the BOT about patching up the buildings. Faculty reps may need to work with the President and Facilities to get the issue fully addressed.
- V) Lab Fees and Departmental Oversight will likely be dealt with by President's new auditing committee.
  - A) Faculty should have representation on this committee.
- VI) Status of assessment
  - A) Dr. Harrell says she would like to appoint an assessment committee with faculty representation...yet its in our contract that one already exists, comprised entirely of faculty.
  - B) Committee hasn't met for 6 months and currently has no chair. Prof. Ambrose has sent multiple emails asking to resume committee meetings and her chairmanship, but has received no response.
  - C) **ACTION ITEM:** Prof. Ambrose will draft a response that Prof. Wilcox will send on behalf of the Executive Committee to Dr. Harrell (cc'ed to Berlam and Goodlette) explaining the above points, as well as stating that we want to wait to make any major changes/decisions until the new President is on board and all the faculty are back in the fall. We should also state that, in order to increase transparency, we would like all future meetings with Dr. Harrell to take place with all 3 Faculty Senate Presidents present. Executive Committee has voted in favor of Prof. Ambrose's draft.

- D) An addendum to this message should be sent, explaining that many faculty are concerned by the latter's email thanking us for our service on the response to SACS, considering that the faculty had very little input (for example, when Harrell claimed in front of the BOT that Faculty Senate vetted a portion of the SACS report, when we were not even permitted to see the final version). Recognition may be "premature." May want to consult with Myra and Kathy Clark to make sure they support this.

VII) Senate and Union Roles/Issues

- A) Faculty representation on committees is a challenging issue. There are many committees that require faculty service, but this is also a great obligation, time-wise, for faculty members...and it seems that the administration doesn't always listen to/respond to the committees anyway.
  - 1) Committees should be answering to Faculty Senate (currently is under the dominion of Michelle Fanslau).
  - 2) Newer faculty should be involved from Day One – maybe through committee sign-up sheets at the first Senate meeting of the Fall Semester.
  - 3) Need to protect faculty on annual contract from chairmanship on committees, however, so they are not pressured to conform to the status quo.
- B) Our SACS report states that we have shared governance through Faculty Senate, Union, and the TLC.
  - 1) Concern that TLC has been eliminated and the outgoing administration might be trying to interfere with/minimize the role of Senate.
  - 2) Have heard that new administration is keen to keep Senate and Union separate. Union has composed a letter to President Allbritten (not yet sent) explaining the problem with the ULP and expressing a desire to
- C) Dr. Harrell has requested a copy of the Faculty Senate Bylaws and Constitution. **ACTION ITEM:** Prof. Ransford will email Prof. Wilcox a digital copy. Faculty Senate plans to review and revise them by next year.
- D) Prof. Ransford will tender his resignation as Lee Campus Senate President at the duty days meeting in August. Until then, he is still the acting President. **ACTION ITEM:** Prof. Ransford will send an email to Lee faculty announcing his plans and asking faculty to consider new nominations for the position.

VIII) Executive Committee attendance

- A) Interest in inviting other faculty members who are not officers but who may be able to contribute, okayed by committee.

- B) These “visiting” faculty members will not be able to vote in our meetings, however.

IX) Priority Topics and Contact with Dr. Allbritten

- A) Plan is to develop this list of our priorities and send an e-mail to President Allbritten (jeffallbritten@comcast.net) with a letter requesting a meeting.
- B) **ACTION ITEM:** Prof. Wilcox will contact June Hollingshead to try to set up a meeting for Aug. 1 between President Allbritten and the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Faculty Senates.