



## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

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Friday 10/28/2016

1:00pm-2:00pm

Attendees:

Lee: 30

Charlotte: 3

Collier: 2

H/G: 2

Total Count: 52

Locations: Thomas Edison U102, Charlotte O118, Collier M120A, H/G A114

- i. Agenda Adoption: Mary Robertson, Harold Van Boven Motion Passed.
- ii. Minutes Adoption: David Hoffman, Mary Robertson Motion Passed.
- iii. Action Items: None.
- iv. Committee Updates: None.
- v. Information Items:
  - a. Reasonable accommodations – revisited: Faculty expressed the desire to have more input in establishing reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Faculty concerns include implementing accommodations that alter the outcome/s of a course, and accommodations that require providing intellectual content, e.g., lectures, to students. At a meeting with Dr. Stewart on 10/17/2016, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee discussed gaining access to a list of common accommodations, if such a list exists, and for Adaptive Services to share research that demonstrates how providing various accommodations to students with disabilities helps these students succeed without compromising learning. Dr. Stewart suggested for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to meet with Angela Hartsell, Director of Adaptive Services, as well as Dr. Christine Davis, Vice President of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, to discuss concerns regarding reasonable accommodations.



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- b. U Building Noise – Update: Per Dr. Stewart, the equipment that was ordered to reduce the noise generated by the movement of furniture in U Building is due to arrive soon, by the end of October 2016.
  
- c. Increase Communication Update:
  - i. Wi-Fi issue: Per Jason Dudley, IT has not observed high peaks in bandwidth use in U Building on any particular day or time. However, IT continues to contend with infrastructure-related challenges with bandwidth. Since some faculty are still experiencing access issues in U Building, Dr. Stewart will have IT continue to review usage in U building.
  
  - ii. Yammer: This tool allows private communication among individuals at an organization. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will experiment with using this tool, which has a smartphone app, to facilitate Faculty Senate discussions, share files, and post meeting minutes in a secure forum.
  
  - iii. Business Skype: This tool can be used by faculty to attend a conference, as well as for faculty who live in remote areas to attend meetings virtually. Bandwidth issues makes Adobe Connect ineffective for online attendance of Faculty Senate Meetings. We want to start using Business Skype by January 2017.
  
- d. Freedom of Speech/ Demonstration Policy Update: Vice Presidents Dr. Stewart and Dr. Davis and Chief of Staff Dr. Peel crafted a policy regarding free speech on campus. They based their policy on the recommendations made by members of the Freedom of Speech Ad Hoc Committee: Professors Frank Dowd, Bill Shuluk, Bill Wilcox, and Tim Bishop. The Vice Presidents and Chief of Staff made minor changes to the Committee's document. The Office of the Dean of Students will determine when a community member visiting campus who is exercising his/her right to free speech has violated the policy.
  
- e. Culture Change: Per Dr. Stewart, during the Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting held on 10/17/2016, the existence of a culture of fear at the college is unacceptable. Dr. Stewart urges any faculty who is experiencing bullying, which he defines as unprofessional treatment, to express what is happening directly to him (Dr. Stewart).



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- f. Parking Update – Lee: Faculty continue to struggle to find parking in Lot 7, a faculty and staff only parking lot, where students are regularly parking. Also, people have been parking dangerously, creating spaces where there are none, and thereby reducing the visibility of oncoming cars. Dr. Stewart told the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on 10/17/2016 that he will inquire again with Rick Parfitt regarding students parking in Lot 7. Students will be able to park at the arena once it opens.
  - g. End of Semester Party – suggested dates: We want to determine a time and day to hold an end of the semester party. Some faculty suggested during final exams, or the last Friday after finals end, would be ideal.
- vi. Faculty Updates:
- a. Hendry Glades: Bulldozing began at Hendry Glades for the new HG facility.
  - b. Scolding emails: Faculty discussed the circulation of scolding emails (memos, announcements, etc.) to all faculty rather than the offenders for particular offenses, such as over-printing and cancelling class. Faculty suggested that deans should handle these issues with the offending parties or groups, rather than sending mass, scolding emails.
  - c. Substitute Professors: Faculty discussed the practice of using substitute professors for when faculty take the occasional duty day/s off. Some faculty asserted that hiring substitute professors conveys to students that faculty are replaceable. Concerns about the abuse of the practice arose, e.g., what if adjunct professors are hired to teach a class at a time/day when he/she can't be present 2-3 times during the semester due to prior commitments, but he/she is hired anyway with the suggestion that a substitute can be hired? Dean McClinton has permitted faculty to offer an out of class assignment that is meaningful and produces evidence of completion as an alternative, which faculty said is preferable to hiring substitute professors.
  - d. Early Alert System: Faculty have had issues with the process. Requesting an early alert specialist to explain the process at Faculty Senate was suggested.
- vii. New Business: None.

Motion to Adjourn: Tim Bishop; Rebecca Harris Motion Passed.

Adopted on 1/4/2017