MINUTES
Academic Senate
September 16, 2014
3:30 p.m.
Alumni Gallery

Members present: Paul Delaney (Professor of English), Mary Docter (Professor of Modern Languages), Michelle Hardley (Secretary - Registrar), Tori Ippolito (WCSA Student Rep), Paul Morgan (Professor of Economics and Business), Tatiana Nazarenko (Dean of Curriculum and Educational Effectiveness), Edd Noell (Professor of Economics and Business), Mark Sargent (Chair and Provost), Brenda Smith (Professor of Psychology), Jim Taylor (Professor of Philosophy), David Vander Laan (Professor of Philosophy), Bill Wright (Associate Provost),

Absent: Cynthia Toms (Director of Global Education), Niva Tro (Professor of Chemistry)

Others present:

I. Prayer – Jim Taylor

II. The Minutes from April 22, 2014 and September 9, 2014 were approved

III. Update on planned ILO Information Literacy Assessment – Molly Riley
Molly reviewed the plan for Information Literacy assessment this year. Her team will be looking at how students “identify, evaluate and integrate sources effectively and ethically in various contexts”. The team will look at actual student writing and students self-reporting on their own research practices. The team will be looking at three lower division English Composition courses and upper division senior seminar courses. They will be using a rubric (adapted from Carleton College) to evaluate the students writing and the “Research Practices” survey (adapted from HEDS) to evaluate the students self reports.

The assessment team is comprised of Steve Contakes (Chemistry), Jana Mayfield Mullen (Library), Omedi Ochieng (Communication Studies), and Molly Riley (Library).

Molly asked the senators to suggest other data that faculty might be interested in knowing about student writing, as these topics could be included in the assessment plan. The following topics were suggested:

1. To consider surveying students writing at the various stages of the writing process (beginning topic, outline, first draft etc.) versus only on their final paper.
2. Asking students to keep track of their processing as they are entering the writing process (keeping a running research log of sorts) – why sources are chosen, primary, secondary as they are going through the process versus reporting at the end.
3. To collect information on how students find their sources in various disciplines.

IV. GE Committee – Oral Communication – Findings and Feedback – Tatiana Nazarenko
Tatiana brought a summary of the final assessment report on Oral Communication. Since all of the faculty members on the GE Committee are new this year, Tatiana is seeking Senate’s advice on the results. Niva Tro, David VanderLaan, and Edd Noell will meet and discuss the full report and help advise on next step recommendations to present to Senate.

V. Faculty Position Requests
A. Kinesiology – new position
This proposal for a new position was discussed by Senate.

B. Mathematics – replacement for J. Leech
This proposal for a replacement position was discussed by Senate.

C. Religious Studies – replacement position for M. Lee
This proposal for a replacement position was discussed by Senate.

D. Philosophy – new position
This proposal for a new position was discussed by Senate.

VI. Review Draft of Senate Proposal Form
Senators spent a brief amount of time on an initial review of the Senate Proposal Form. It was decided to remove Program Review and Assessment as a requirement for some proposals and to add in a summary rationale statement to the items required for all proposals. This form will be considered again at the next Senate meeting.

VII. Request to Change the Number of Units for French and Spanish majors
This request will be considered at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar