MINUTES  
Academic Senate  
January 27, 2015  
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 (WCSC 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), Niva Tro (Professor of Chemistry), David Vander Laan (Professor of Philosophy)

Absent:

Others present: Bill Wright (Associate Provost)

I. Devotion – Mark Sargent

II. The minutes from January 20, 2015 were approved

III. Continued Discussion on Attendance Policy and Conflicts with School Sponsored Events  
Mark met with Dave Odell to discuss the attendance policy as it related to athletic absences. Dave proposed the attached policy for athletic absences.

Senators discussed the policy proposed by Dave Odell as well as the two proposed revisions to the attendance policy submitted by Paul Delaney. Concerns were raised on the number of absences athletes have, how the schedules are created, and whether to give registration priority for athletes.

Mark will send Pauls’ two policy revision versions to the Athletic Department and ask them to respond to these two documents. We will discuss their response in a future Senate meeting.

IV. Continued Discussion on the WASC Self Study
Bill opened a discussion on the WASC Self-Study report. Key discussion goals were to determine if there were any missing pieces of evidence in the areas, and whether we scored ourselves with a higher or lower rank or priority than was appropriate on any of the items.

Senators asked questions and made suggestions to improve the content of the document. One point Bill noted was that each ranked category does have a large number of issues present within, and the rankings and priority scores are based on an overall level of achievement within the category versus a consistent level of
achievement for each individual issues. There will be 8 different essays submitted with this document to help explain the details of these rankings.

Any additional comments on the document should be directed to Bill.

V. Advising Load Distribution

Senators reviewed data from Bill regarding the advising loads of our faculty as of the fall 2014 semester. The document gave information about the total number of advisees per faculty member, the total for the department and the average number of advisees per faculty member. In some instances, the numbers of advisees for individuals within departments vary widely, and there is also a large variation between departments.

In future Senate meetings we will focus on exploring a variety of ways of creating more equity in the advising loads across the faculty. There may be capacity within our faculty who have a lighter advising load to take on some of the First Year class until they decide on a major, or looking to those in the Student Life area to help support and lighten the load for those who are still deciding on a major.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Hardley
Registrar
FROM DAVE ODELL
January 26, 2015

Our policy is this:

1. Nobody will miss their Friday at 11:30 – 12:35 class when we have a home game. No exceptions....even for starters.

2. Injured players, redshirt players and players that have no chance of playing due to their place on the depth chart will not travel if they have ANY class conflicts.

3. For Friday classes that start at 12:45 (there are only a few players in this situation) they will be asked to stay in class for part of the session depending on whether they are a starter or not. Those situations will be considered on a case-by-case basis with the priority being to limit class time missed.

4. The players have been and will be informed that they will not be afforded the typical amount of unexcused absences in the classes that are impacted by the baseball schedule. Those absences should only be take in the case of severe illness or family emergency and Coach Ruiz should be informed of those absences by the athlete.